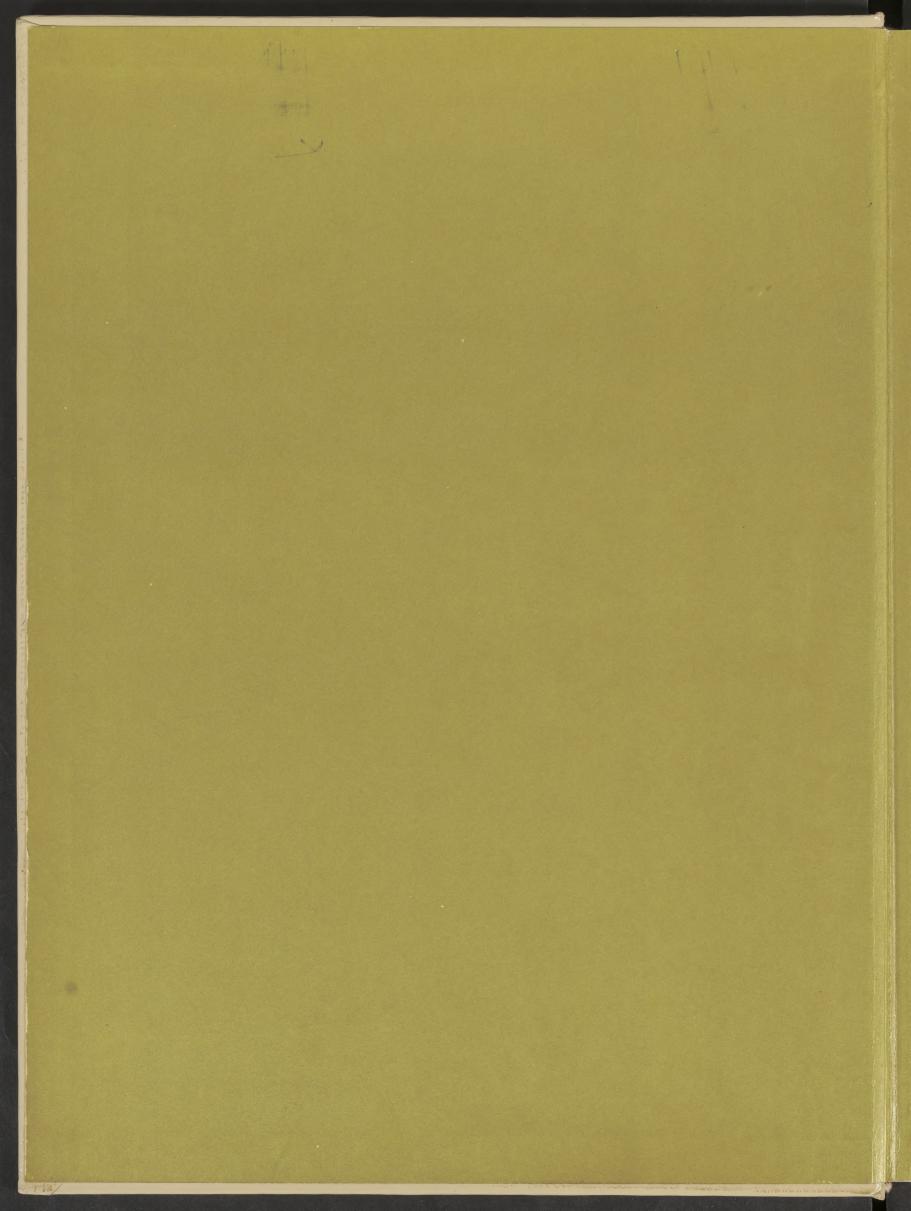


Gane River Gountry



Louisiana

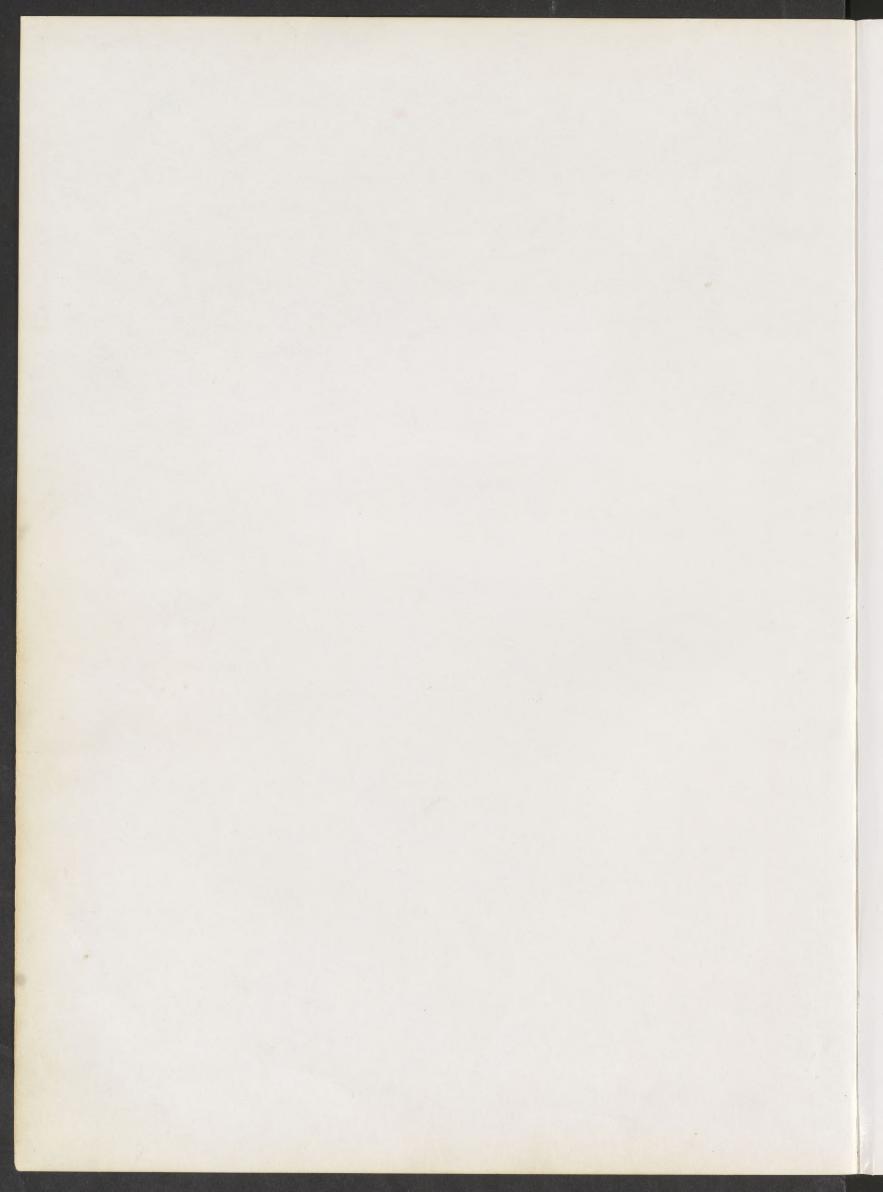
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Limited Edition

Only three hundred copies of this edition were printed, of which this is number <u>58</u>.



Gane River Gountry Louisiana

Carol Wells History and Copy Editor Ezra Adams Designer

Don Sepulvado Photography Consultant

Northwestern State University Press

Natchitoches, Louisiana

1979

Published with funds from the John S. Kyser Endowment and the Northwestern State University Foundation

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Foreword

CANE RIVER COUNTRY Louisiana is a story about a people and their landscape, legacy, and history. This book is also a commentary on a community and its affection for a university — Northwestern State University. While there is much in this volume about the beauty of our landscape, our people and their lives, there is much of "The Old Normal," the "Louisiana State Normal College," "Northwestern State College," and "Northwestern State University" in this volume, too. The university is portrayed as it was at many different times, because our people have long, long memories.

Community and alumni fondness for Northwestern was not lost on our university, because one of the first publications planned by the NSU Press was a pictorial history of the Cane River area. We at the university were also concerned about preserving the history and culture of the Cane River country before certain aspects of it were lost forever — many buildings and homes pictured in these pages have already been destroyed. The catalyst that pushed us toward a commitment to do this book *now* was the proposal made to our university by Mrs. John S. Kyser, widow of the late Dr. John S. Kyser, a former president of our university. Mrs. Kyser had attended planning meetings for this and other publications projected by the university press. The recently established NSU Press needed financial support, and Mrs. Kyser felt that an appropriate memorial to Dr. John Kyser would be an endowment to the NSU Press.

The Kyser endowment was made directly to help establish a fund for publishing books — especially to help with a book that "the community needed and wanted" — about Cane River country. On behalf of Northwestern State University I would like to thank both Mrs. John S. Kyser and her daughter Janet Kyser for their interest in and love for our university. This book is a memorial to John S. Kyser, a pioneer in Louisiana's audio-visual program who believed that a "picture is worth a thousand words."

René J. Bienvenu, President Northwestern State University



Courtesy B. A. Cohen



Courtesy B. A. Cohen

Introduction

CANE RIVER COUNTRY Louisiana is a long-awaited book. For the past several years many people in the Natchitoches area discussed the need for a pictorial history of the Cane River country. The community was aware of rare photographs in the archival collections at Northwestern State University. Also, many individuals in the area had photographs of events, houses, and persons long gone. So CANE RIVER COUNTRY Louisiana is several things: it is a long-awaited pictorial history; it is a gathering together of glimpses of bygone years, places, and events; it is a collection of various facets of the beauty of our natural landscape as it exists; it is a survey of the Natchitoches Historic District and the plantations along the Cane; lastly it is a labor of love on the part of our university, the alumni, and the Cane River community.

Certain explanatory remarks are in order about the scope and guidelines followed in doing this book. The NSU Press Board held public meetings with Natchitoches people and the consensus was that no living or readily identifiable person would be included in the volume. New homes were not included unless they were in the Historic District, and not all worthy homes, new or old, could be included. Likewise, the "boundaries" of the book include Natchitoches Parish and adjacent important historical areas like Fort Jesup and St. Maurice. Wherever possible homes are identified as owners wished, or traditional historic designations are used. Although some photographs or maps were not of good reproduction quality they were the only copies available and were included because of their importance. The NSU Press tried diligently to identify each item as correctly as possible. The public was invited to contribute their photographs and ideas for the book and every idea and item was appreciated and evaluated. The theme of CANE RIVER COUNTRY Louisiana is more of a potpourri approach than topical, subject, or even chronological. It was agreed that the surprise, delight, and curiosity achieved by the juxtaposition of unassociated pictures and text would be best for this volume. Possibly subsequent volumes might be arranged according to themes: architecture, people, history, geography, and so on.

The narrative for this book is drawn from local authors, writers, and historians. In most cases the narrative gives the reader a perspective of those persons contemporary with the pictures with which it is associated. In other words, contemporaries of the times do the narration.

Many people contributed to this book. The direct contributions are noted in the credit lines under the illustrations. The most important persons are those who contributed their photographs or other items with permission to use them.

The following individuals helped personally or professionally during various publishing stages: Jerri Adams, Bobbie Archibald, Joy Nell Bailey, Catherine Bienvenu, Clyde Bostick, Judy Boyd, Bob Burk, Lucille Carnahan, Alvin DeBlieux, Sharon Gahagan, James Hearron, Jim Johnson, Betty Jones, Juanita Kilpatrick, Thelma Kyser, Laura Lavespere, Sudie Lawton, Mildred Lee, Walter Ledet, Mildred McCoy, Theodosia Nolan, Jerry Pierce, Faye Price, Lucille Prudhomme, Mike Sibley, Sylvan Sibley, Robert Smith, Evelyne Taylor, Lovan Thomas, Pat Thomas, Peter Wells, Dixie Whittington, and Irma Sompayrac Willard.

Robert DeBlieux is due a special thanks not only for contributing photographs but also for spending several hours helping the NSU Press staff locate hard-to-find photographs, and helping to identify many scenes and buildings. His knowledge of local history and architecture proved invaluable.

Also, Tommy Johnson for making his entire slide collection available and for spending many hours selecting slides and identifying places and subjects. Ed Dranguet not only served on the NSU Press Board but also helped in many other ways when needed. Other members of the NSU Press Board — Dr. René Bienvenu, Dr. Thomas P. Southerland, Dr. Bennie Barron, Dr. Otis Cox, Dr. Mary Dell Fletcher, Dr. Mildred H. Bailey, Dr. Edward W. Graham, Dr. William B. Knipmeyer, Dr. Robert Palmatier, Dr. Donald M. Rawson, and Dr. George A. Stokes were patient and encouraged the project at all stages. The Service League of Natchitoches Inc. is due special recognition for their faith in the project as well as special permission to include photographs from Cane River Cuisine. The Natchitoches Parish Chamber of Commerce and the Association for the Preservation of Historic Natchitoches helped promote the book. Guillet Photography and especially John C. Guillet did special color processing for the book and also gave permission for us to use his collection of valuable negatives. We greatly profited from his experience and knowledge in photography. Mary Carolyn Roberts did watercolors especially for this book — they speak for themselves.

Of all the acknowledgements, two individuals stand out for their contributions. One is Barbara Anne Cohen, who spent several weeks doing special photography. She met with the NSU Press staff numerous times, spent long hours on the book, and constantly encouraged the project. She did all this at her own time and expense. Without her help it would not have been possible to publish at this time. The other individual who has worked so hard for the NSU Press and has done so much not only for this book but also for other NSU Press books is Donald MacKenzie, director of the NSU Library. When the NSU Press was organized he provided office space and supplies during its first year of existence. Besides that, he lent his unselfish personal help and encouragement as well as that of his office staff. His help, support, and understanding have been very important in this endeavor.

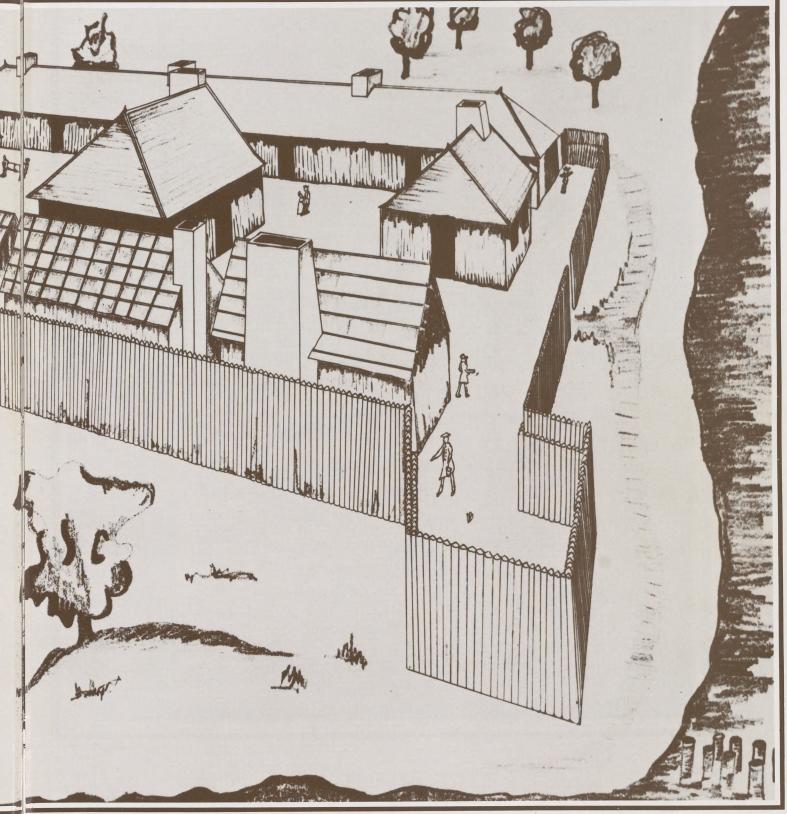
Lastly, the three NSU staff people whose names appear on the title page pulled the book together and gave real life to it: Carol Wells did an excellent job on the copy and historical editing; Ezra Adams created the layout and design, and Don Sepulvado was an outstanding photography consultant. Their efforts produced an extraordinary job and one of which we can be proud.

John Price Director, NSU Press

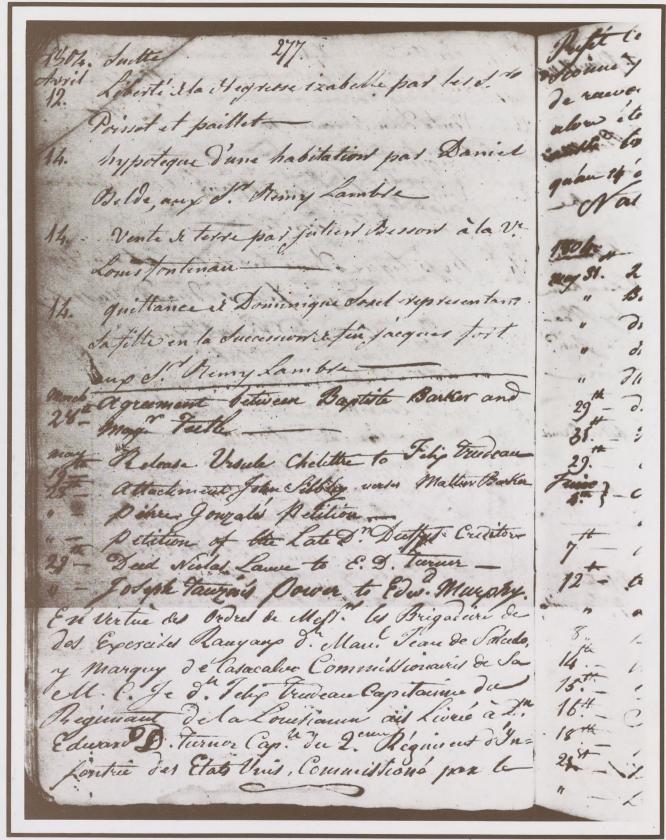


Courtesy B. A. Cohen

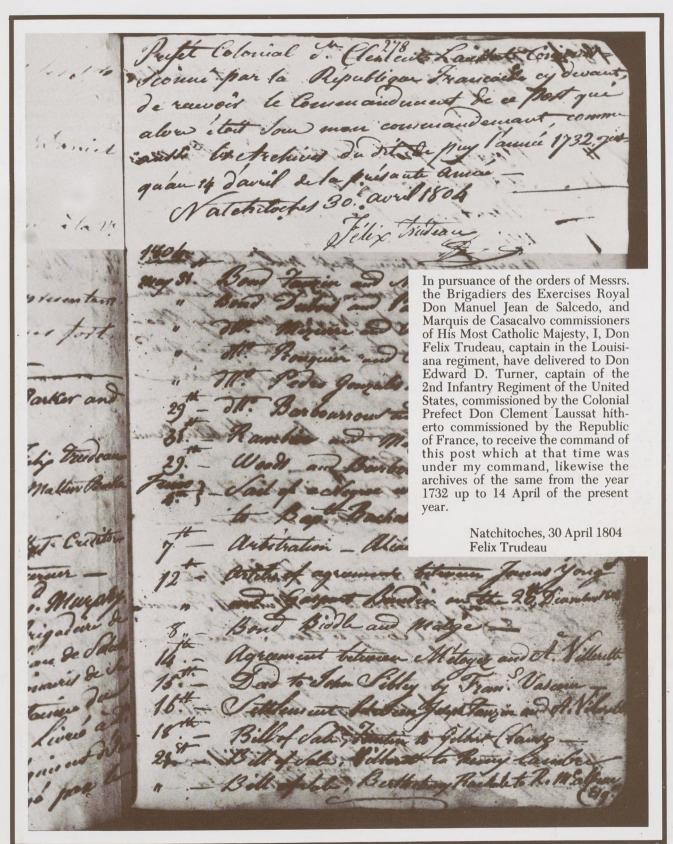




Courtesy of Don Sepulvado



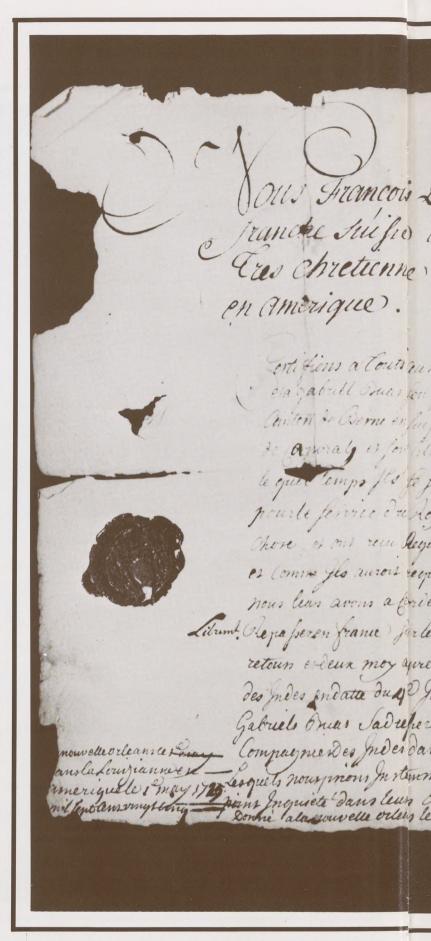
Melrose Collection, NSU Archives



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

A little further up, but on the West bank, the Red river empties into the Mississippi. Thirty leagues from its mouth, on the lands of the Natchitoches, the French on their arrival in Louisiana erected a few palisade [type structures]. This post had as its purpose the taking from New Mexico of fur-bearing and horned animals which a growing colony always needs, and of opening clandestine commerce with the Spanish fort of Adayes which is only seven leagues away. The natural growth of open-stock herds in the countryside soon put an end to the first plan, and the second purpose had been concluded with one of the poorest establishments in the world that will never have any real development. Natchitoches was speedily abandoned by those who aspired to fame and fortune. The only ones who stayed were descendants of a few soldiers who were stationed there at the end of their enlistments. Their number was never over two hundred. They lived on the maize or beans they grew, and they sold the surplus to their indolent neighbors. The money they derived from that weak garrison served to pay for their drinks and even for the clothing which they were obliged to get from elsewhere.

G. T. Raynal, Histoire Philosophique et Politique, 1820

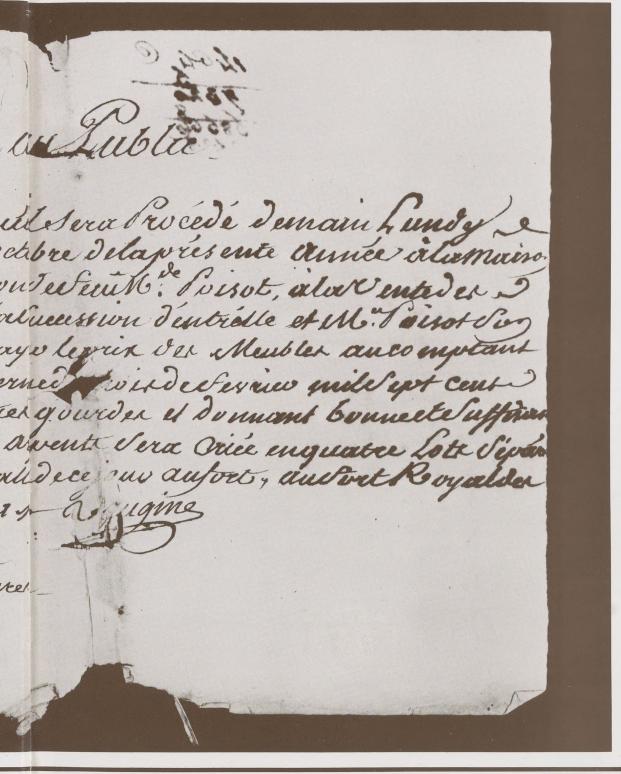


Certificate of honorable discharge of Jean Denis Buard and his son Gabriel Buard, signed by Captain François Louis De Merveilleux, and dated 1 May 1725

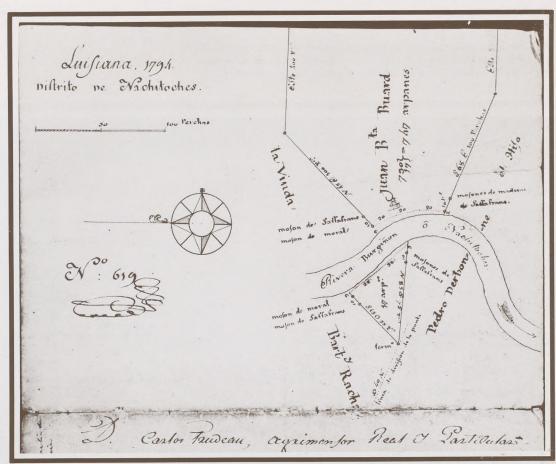
cois Louis De Merveilleux (apitaine) d'une (Compagnie) for de deux lent dix Rommes au Service de Sai Majustet nne Le Roy de France et de navarre dans la Louisianne outs une quil appartiendrus avoir donne le Conege absollus au Nommes Jean Denis 63 uns un sontits Courieux Aliats benotre compagnic natif de Lampigni Lais de vaux_ d'enfaife, Lesquels ont ferri danstal de Compagnie Rvoir Jeandenis Bruar le Benen qualité for fils gabriels enqualité de foldats, rela rendant Clore de ling années por dans les fe font Comporte en Brave foldans dans Couttes le situizeons qui fe font presenters du roy et ontrecie en honneter Gens Jansenon leurs puifie reprocher la moinère in Regularem & leur folde et de ompte donne fe forme trouve ducment fomplant cofatige out requir de nous leurs arioge pour feretirer dans leurs Latrie Lors que bouleurs fembleras. a friele present, Cert pour quely nous prions Couts Coursque sonsaprier de les leifier_ farles vaifaundela Compagnie, gratis, es deleun faiges payer leurs folde pends leurs oy apresquels aurons deliarque Le Consquivansle Gracte que pay fais avec la compayor du 42 Jeanvier delannee 1710. oularticle y est preus pour ass Effer Les dir Jean dennis ex Duperoni on montrour legresent ange aux Gouverneun on Commands, erdreuteun dele derdans le Daysie la Logrance a Louent pour percevoir leur deub, espapage Dourfrance In strument deleurs faire fistete er de leur founir In Sapepon en bonne forme pour les tre leur Shoute parqui que le firi a fin de pouvoir Rejondre leur Datnie aun fre que de Ray fou orleis le 1º mai 1; de le airon por le caches de novarmes ordinaires Esser velle lu Depiren fuipe orleis le 1º mai 1; de le airon por le caches de novarmes ordinaires Esser velle lu Depiren fuipe

Notice of a public sale to take place at the residence of the late Mme. Poisot, to start at the conclusion of the Sunday, October first, mass at the royal fort; signed by Commandant Vaugine at the royal fort, Post of Natchitoches, 30 September 1781

remier jour dumoir d'vetil delpabitationdela uccession Je menbler, et immenbler de loilue Morry, aux Quiditions depaye et les négres etlevres auterne quatresingt truis, environtres q Courtier haberre dequine an alissied de messe parroissialed natchitocher he 30.7 Laditte Cente Commiencero alhabitation hundy visufficure dumatin



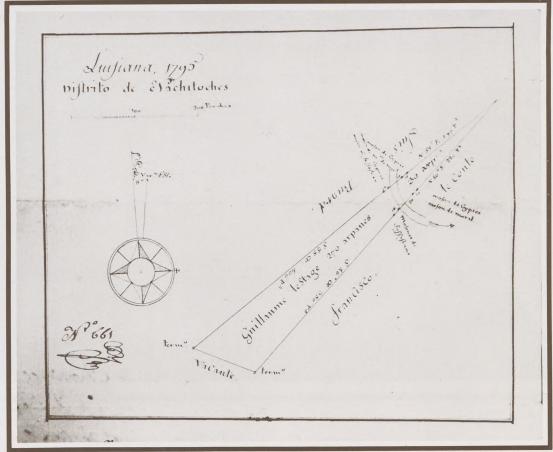
Melrose Collection, NSU Archives



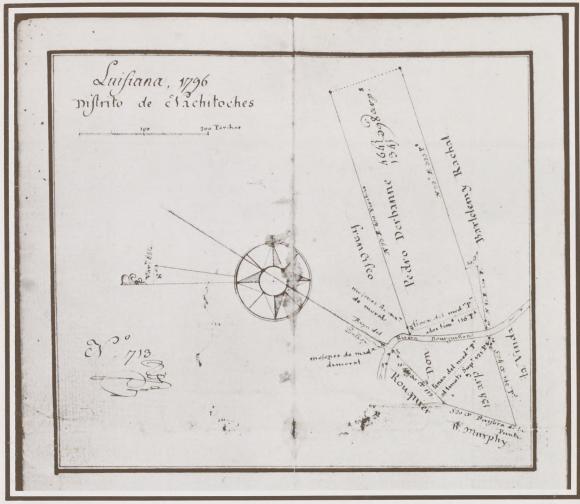
1794: land of Juan Baptista Buard on the Rivera Burgiñon, bordered by lands of Pedro Derbon and son and the widow of Bartelemy Rachal

1795: land of Guillaume Lestage bordered by lands of Francisco Leconte and Luis Buard.

Peter Cloutier Collection, NSU Archives



Peter Cloutier Collection, NSU Archives



1796: land of Pedro Derbanne on Rivera Bourguiñon bordered by lands of the widow Bartelemy Rachal, B. Murphy, and Francisco Rouquier.

Peter Cloutier Collection, NSU Archives

From the rapids to Natchitoches, a distance of about one hundred and ten miles, the settlements are thinly scattered along the river, and most on the right bank of it. Nearly the whole of this tract, especially along the water courses, is composed of bottom land of the richest kind, and well covered with wood, though in some instances for the space of fifteen or twenty miles no settlements have been made. These, however, begin to be numerous and wealthy about thirty miles below Natchitoches, and they multiply as that place is approached. One great inconvenience is, that the bottom lands suitable for cultivation extend only in narrow borders along the river, generally from three hundred to four hundred yards in depth, and are bounded in the rear

by cypress swamps and lakes. These swamps and lakes almost invariably extend parallel to the river, and are seldom more than one or two miles wide. They are bounded on the opposite side by the high lands which are of a rolling nature, interspersed with extensive rich prairies, and small ridges of pine and othe timber; and the lands of this mixed quality extend westward to the Sabine. Many elevated situations occur along the river, and back of it, which afford delightful views. From some of them the eye may glance over vast natural meadows, thickly studded with copses of trees, adorned with variegated herbage.

Amos Stoddard, Sketches, Historical and Descriptive, of Louisiana, 1812



WILLIAM CHARLES COLE CLAIBORNE, Governor of the Territory of Orleans, to all who shall see these presents, Greeting:

John Nancarrow

I do appoint him Sheriff in and for the bounty of Nachetoches

and do authorize and empower him to execute and fulfil the duties of that office according to law—and to have and to hold the said office, with all the powers, privileges and emoluments thereto of right appertaining.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have caused these letters to be made patent, and the Seal of the Territory to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand, and the seal of the territory, at the city of New-orleans, this 21.1 day of April in the year of our Lord, one thousand, eight hundred and Sixe and in the 30th year of American Independence.

By the Governor,

George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives

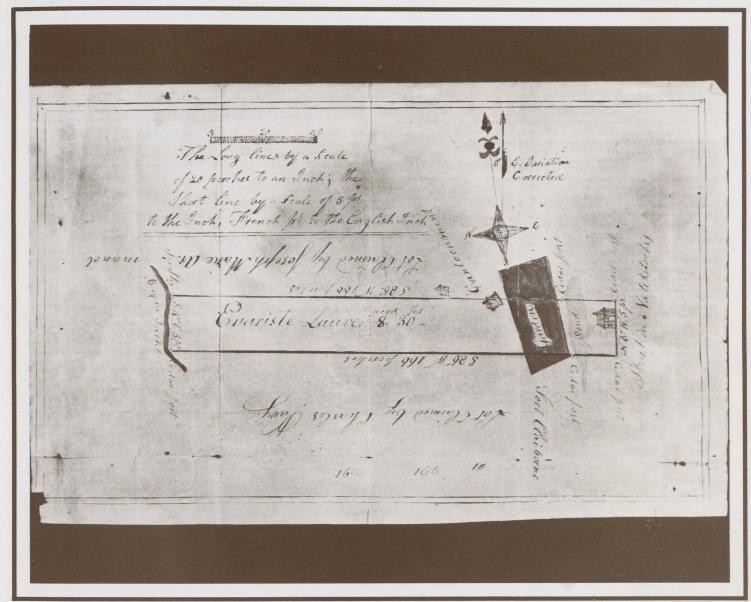
Natchitoches, 4th January 1812 His Excellency Govr. Claiborne

The commission of robbers on the Territory West of the Arroyo Hondo, and East of the Sabine River, and as your memorialists believe within the limits of your Excellency's Government, has become so frequent, that it is no longer safe to travel on the highways & roads through which the commerce of this Parish with the adjoining Mexican provinces have hitherto been carried on . . . on the 2nd of January Inst. a Company of Spaniards, whilst travelling on the highway leading from the Sabine to Bayou Pierre, were attacked by a party of Said Ban-

ditti about thirty in number, with their faces blacked, and otherwise disfigured, who fired upon them, killed one man, wounded several, one it is supposed mortally so, and robbed them of all their horses, mules, baggage and about six thousand dollars in specie . . .

Compere & Hertzog, Vienne & Landray, C. Pavie & Ce., Jos. Tauzin, A. Sompayrac, Jn. Cortes, Ambse. Duval & Ete. Lauve.

The Territorial Papers of the United States, Vol. IX



Hughes Collection, NSU Archives

Fort Claiborne, March 6, 1812

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... The situation of the Garrison is much to be lamented, and is productive of a train of disadvantages easily foreseen by military men and alone to be remedied by one more eligible when speaking in a military point of view. It is commanded on the south and west by hills within Musket shot — It is nearly surrounded by a lagoon of Water which stands three fourths of the year productive of poisonous effluvia, and a host of musketoes — this lagoon alone separates it from the village, its proximity to which gives the soldier free scope to indulge himself in all the vices of the age, which is every way calculated to seduce him

from his duty & ruins his health and dissipates his morality. — I now, Sir, approach the publick purse — The Buildings in toto want repairing — this will be productive of much labor and expense to the publick — and it must be done this summer, for the comfort and health of the Troops, it no longer can be delayed.

Captain Walter H. Overton to Zebulon M. Pike The Territorial Papers of the United States: The Territory of Orleans, 1803-1812

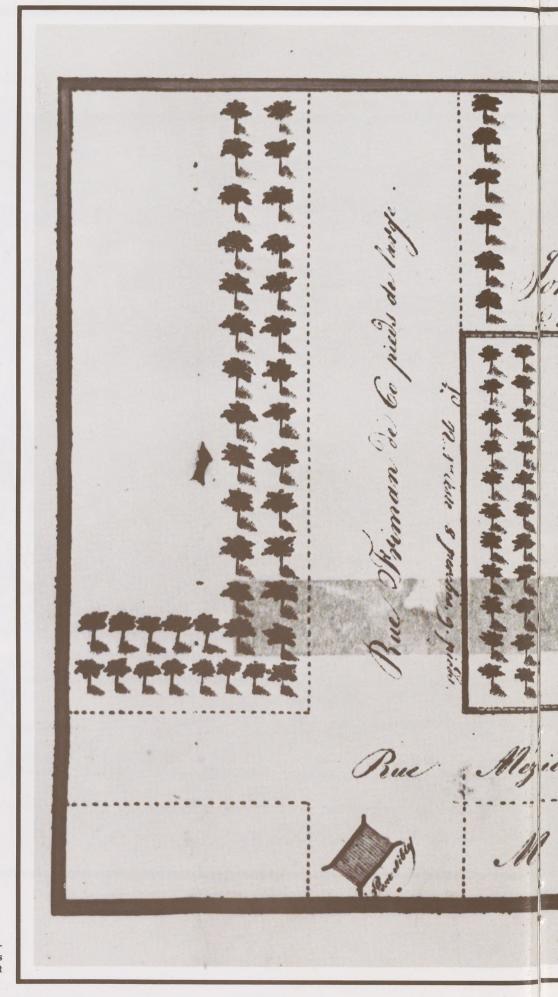


Louisiana and neighboring countries, undated map by Jacques Nicolas Bellin, c. 1764.

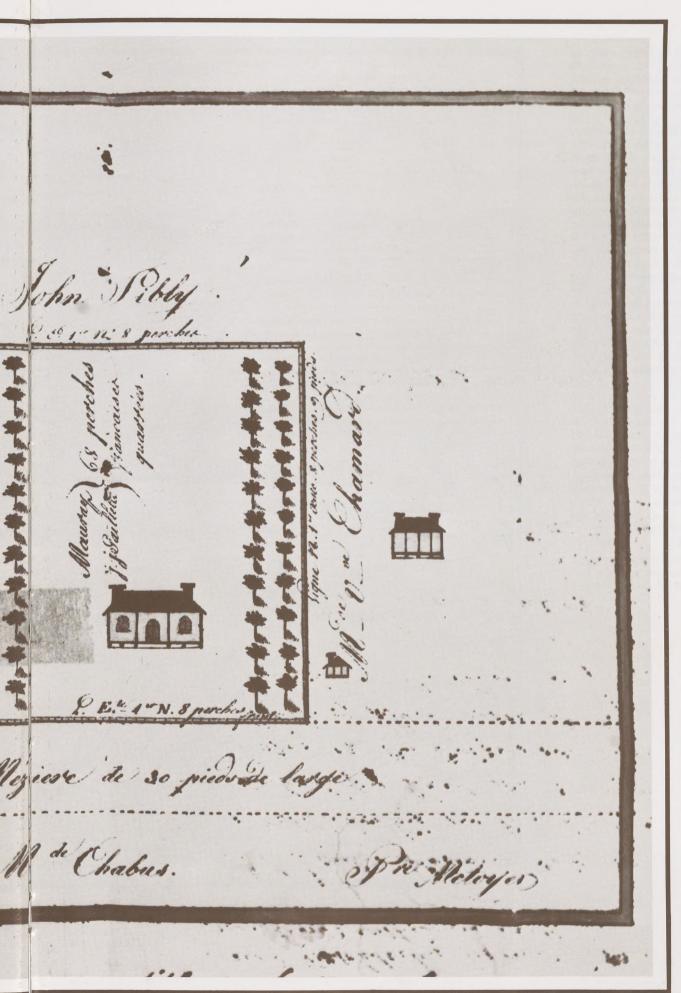


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Map Collection, NSU Archives



Sale of lot on Rue Méziere by John Baptiste Jacques Paillette and William Murray; the lot adjoins the lot of the Widow Chamard and the street called Rue Furman; 6 March 1810.



Peter Cloutier Collection, NSU Archives

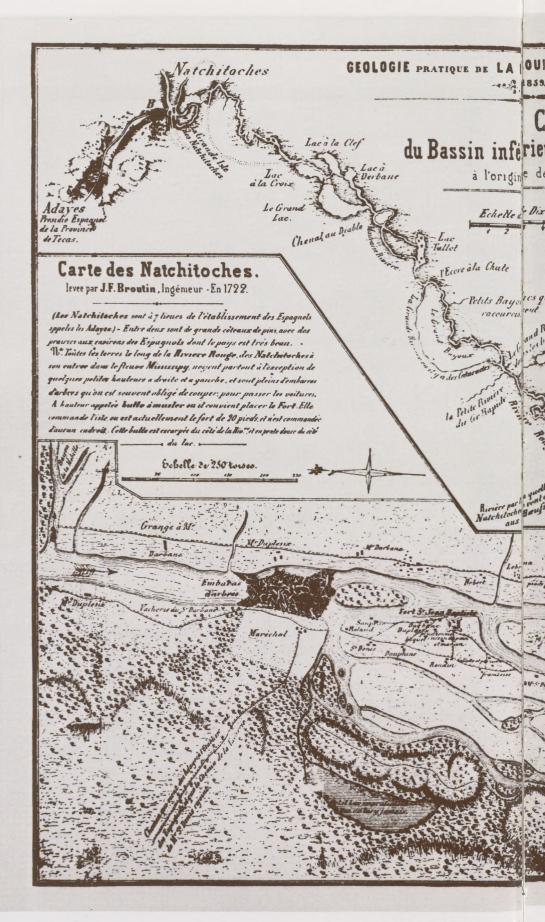
Excerpts from letters St. Denis wrote to the Spanish governor, Don Manuel de Sandoval, when he objected to the French fort's being moved from an island in the river to a nearby hill:

The land of Nachitoos has always been situated as it is today. There the river Colorado, or Rubro, flows from north to south. I have here on the east side the land of the French, who inhabit it. On the west is an island on which the French presidio was placed in the beginning, and on which it remained until the day of its removal. Between the two is the river itself. The said island most certainly belongs to the disputed land, because on its west side there is nothing except a flat hillock which, when the river is flooded, encloses a branch of it. When the latter is dry it is not extensive and does not form any obstacle. On the contrary, one travels without difficulty from the island to the disputed territory and to the site of the presidio.

The French presidio never stood on the other side of the said river. It was always on this side, because in truth it had its beginnings in the camp of the Natchitoches Indians, and its existence on the island belonging to the disputed territory, unless the Spaniards may want to give the name of river to the branch of a river which becomes dry and which we have crossed in times past and we cross today without difficulty.

 $\phi \phi \phi$

I am removing our presidio only a stone's throw from the site where it formerly was. It is a place midway between



Broutin map of Natchitoches (1722 should be 1732).



R. Thomassy, Geologie Pratique de la Louisiane, 1859

an adjoining lake and a branch of the river which becomes dry and which has been crossed and is being crossed today without difficulty.

If because of this branch of the river which becomes dry, it seems, or one judges, that the French are on the other side of the river, with how much more reason should they now also be considered so to be because of the lake that never goes dry and that receives the waters of the river when it is in flood, sometimes from the north and then again from the south?

ΦΦΦ

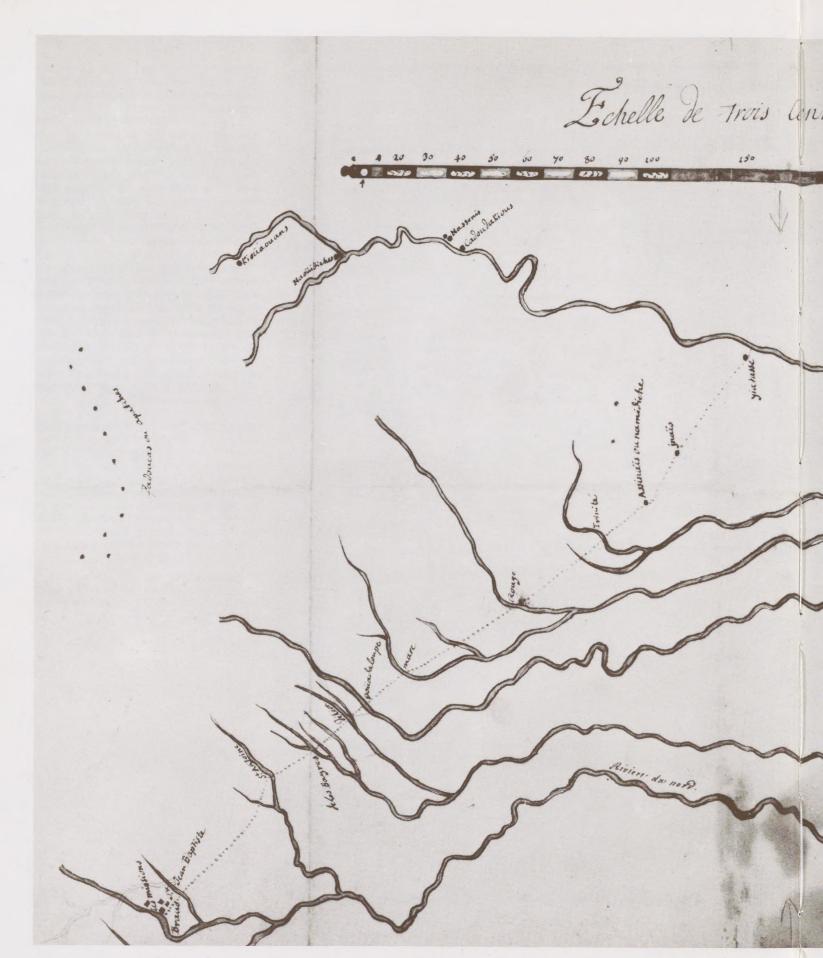
I am surprised and shall always be surprised that the right of the French to move their presidio a stone's throw is disputed. Who set boundaries between us and you? We are not taking your lands from you; leave us ours. Believe me that I do not act without orders. They are superior orders, but, presuming that there were none, I serve the Most Christian King. I must serve and look to the interests of my king...

August 22, 1736

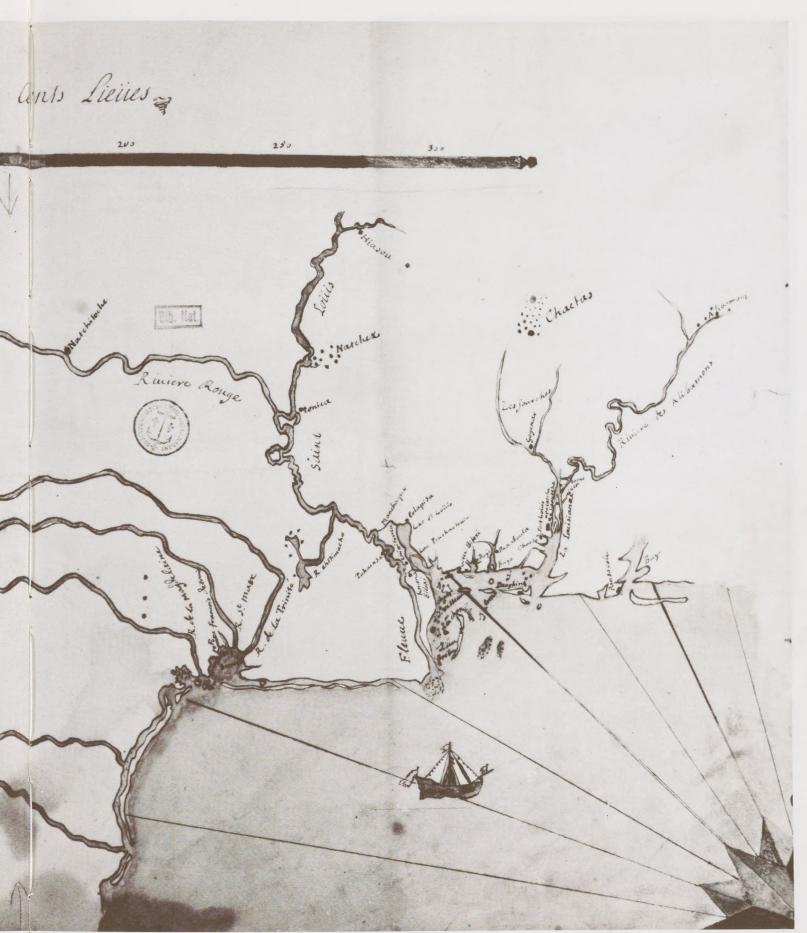
Saint Denis

 $\Phi \Phi \Phi$

All the above quotations are from *Pichardo's Treatise on the Limits of Louisiana and Texas*, 1941



Undated map of Louisiana drawn prior to the founding of New Orleans. Unsigned.



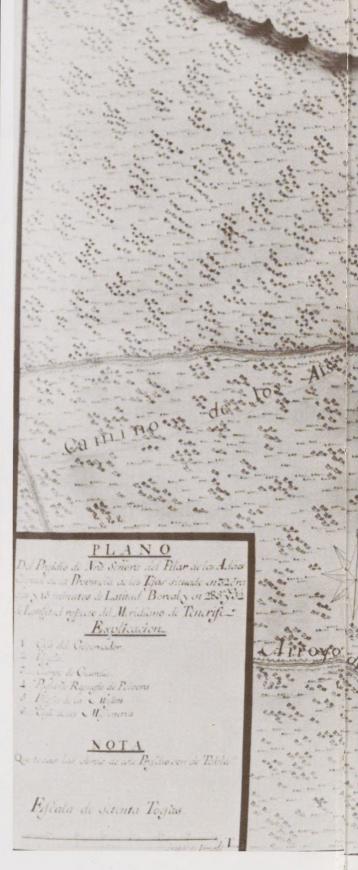
Bibliothèque National, Paris; courtesy Mrs. William Nolan

dels Adais enla francesa delos thewas Nums Los de Philipinas Oura forisficación delimes y des especutada Marques de San Miguel de Abrudyo engrumeno a Mobiembre De Det nobaciendo dado lagragoin on Vegular que consergondia al Capital del Remidia metro Hancos delos Balvantes, Vedurendolos aggin tandolos Otros tres del Croagono porque quedan melos defender La Plaza Los Cun Bombus querene Giori ados a pox acomodarse alterseno; que ocupa ha emase todo than deun monte quegadomina toda la Campa Tra Con No: Para quitrene dealto de de el Aqua? esta Sajo El Cahon atras delala de fuil aunque no redelara dedax Logo dentro dela Hara tel Contra Jone que Sonalan Las Lineas que cubren Las Con Finas O Cincumbalana Jamuren Los Baluaxtes; B. I sta esse faccione à avere lequas del que to Namues en Machien - Mirio

Photo from the Library of Congress, NSU Archives

Perhaps few travelers, who pass over the highway between Robeline and Natchitoches, La., ever realize that they have crossed what was once an international boundary, and come within hearing distance of the capital site of a province more vast than the largest of the present commonwealth of the United States.

Ross Phares, Melrose Collection, NSU Archives



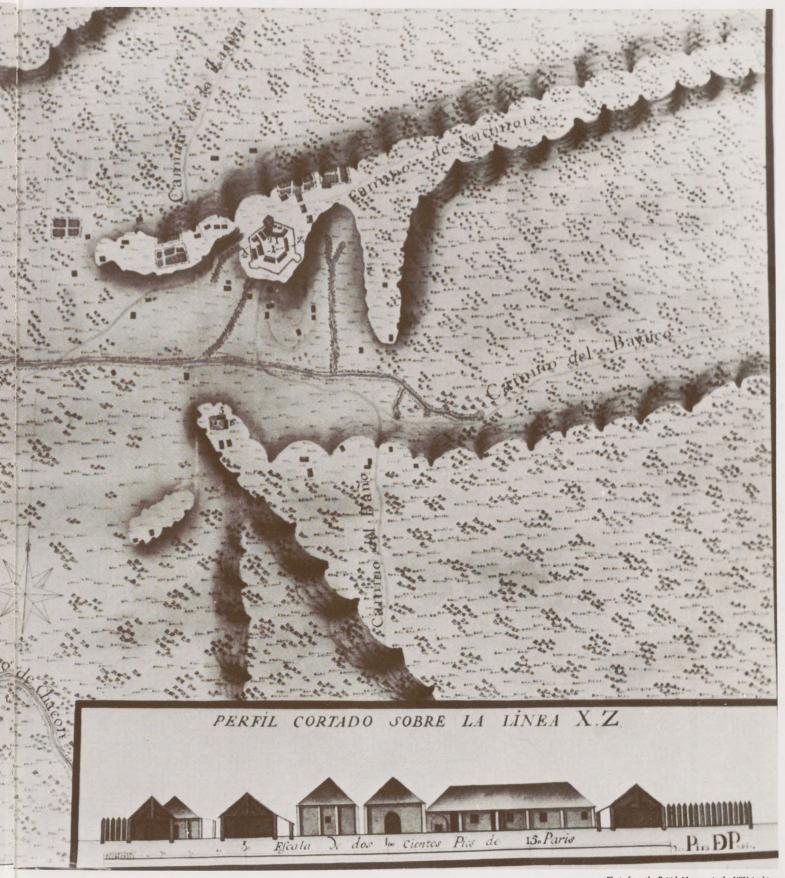


Photo from the British Museum in the NSU Archives

Rumors alone were their guides through a wild and desolate country;
Till, at the little inn of the Spanish town of Adayes,
Weary and worn, they alighted and learned from the garrulous landlord
That on the day before, with horses and guides and companions,
Gabriel left the village, and took the road of the prairies.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Evangeline



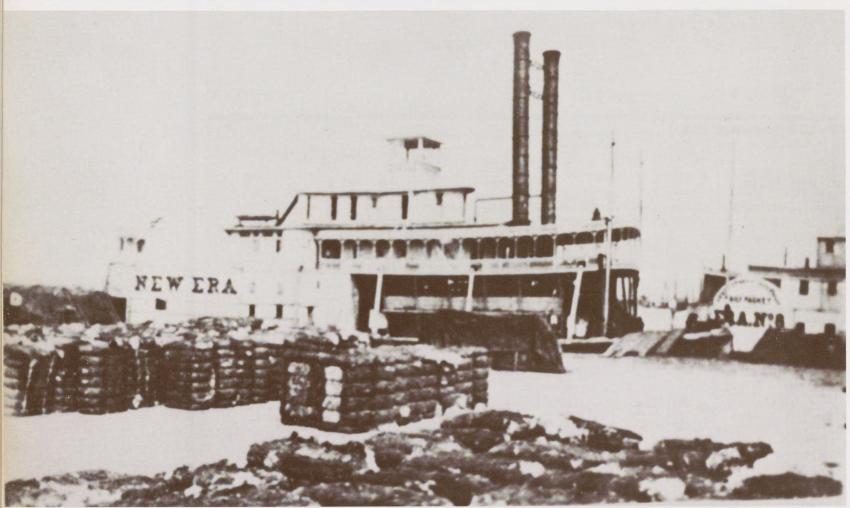
... The parish seat is Natchitoches which is an old town of French origin, and largely populated now by descendants of the original Creole settlers. The town has been in its decadence, from a business point of view, for many years, but in many respects it is a great place. Some of the

finest specimens of architecture in the shape of churches, cathedrals and public buildings are to be seen here. It has always been noted for its social prestige and the wealth and polish of its citizens.

F. H. Tompkins, North Louisiana, 1886



Marshall H. Carver Collection, NSU Archives



SARA

Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

When the first steamboat to reach Natchitoches arrived in 1824 it found awaiting it a river trade already a century old. Trade needed no "working up." It merely shifted from dugout and flatboat to steamboat.

J. E. Guardia, "Historic Natchitoches, Louisiana: Its Two-Century Raison d'Etre," Melrose Collection, NSU Archives Mr Murphy.

The 20 bales of Callon I epoche to you of an now at Ducauronau's Landing. Br. to present on the first load to take there as I four they might to damaged by rain your Pother Sevents.

Your Pother Swand

Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

The great fault which I find at this post is the river, which is very difficult during six months of the year, not having water for navigation ... but during high water, all the channels fill and can be navigated with boats — which is in the months from January to July. But it is necessary to have Indian guides

because the French do not know all the channels, which are not all navigable.

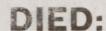
Derbanne: Report of the Post of Natchitoches, 1723 (translated by Katherine Bridges and Winston DeVille)



Natchitoches Parish Courthouse

Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

Do you remember the old town clock That hung in the courthouse tower? Day in and day out, year in and year out, Striking each quarter hour. Grace Tarleton Aaron





At 9:20 a, m., Thursday, Sept. 15th, 1887,

JEAN PRUDHOMME;

aged 80 years.

The funeral will take place from the Cathedral to-morrow morning at 9:15 a. m.

The friends and acquaintances of the family are respectfully invited to attend.

Natchitoches, La., Sept. 15th, 1887



FUNERAL NOTICE.

DIED at 11 o'clock P. M., Wednesday, March 1st, 1876,

PIERRE LESTAN PRUDHOMME,

aged 74 years.

Funeral notices

Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

There seemed some sort of curious connection between the lives of these people and the soft white material with which their existence had been so closely interwoven — as though their very circumstances had partaken of the same quality. What it had done to them - this thing that was once the strength of the country and was now so powerless to bring prosperity.

William Spratling, "Cane River Portraits"



... when the Red River changed its main bed at the village of Grand Ecore, four miles north of Natchitoches, and carved out a new route that rejoined the old course far downstream, all of this was altered. Natchitoches, left orphaned on a measly trickle, was bereft of river commerce and Grand Ecore became

for a time the metropolis of the river. It was not until the twentieth century that the anemic river to Natchitoches was dammed and converted into the lovely Cane River Lake.

James Aswell, "The Town the G.I.s Called 'Smith.'"



Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives

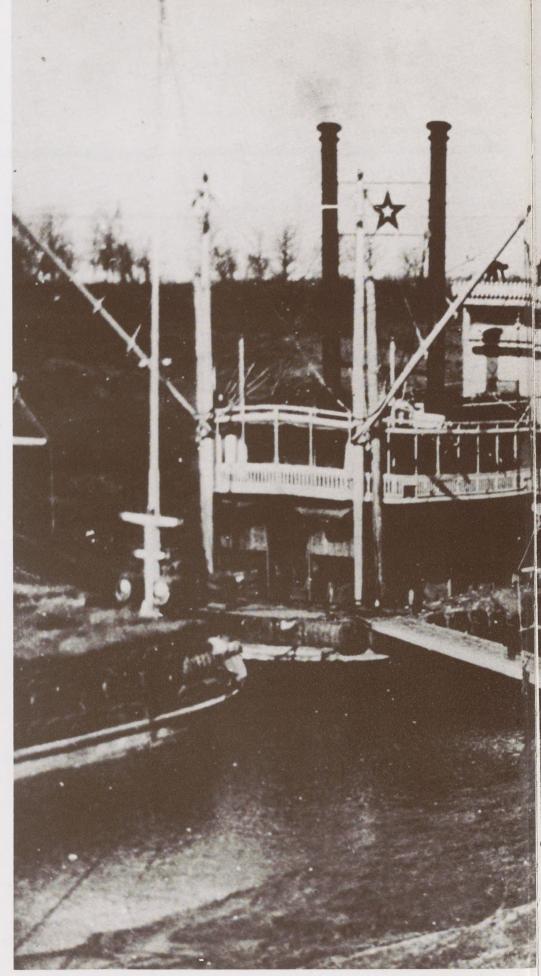
Cane River winds its graceful way. It is a lake now. In the town of Natchitoches they say Cane River "was sired by God and damned by Phanor Breazeale."

Meigs O. Frost

I struck Red River in August, 1865, nearly forty-three years ago . . . The banks of Red River, from the mouth to Kiomatia, a distance of one thousand miles — were lined with cotton, and the only question asked by shippers of the Captain of the boat was: "How many bales will you take?" The freight on cotton from upper Red River at that time to New Orleans was \$50.00 per bale. Boats on Red River were as thick as leaves in ambrosia.

Captain M. L. Scovell

Captain M. L. Scovell



Steamer Scovell at Twenty-four-mile Landing, Cohen Plantation. Frank Scovell, master George Adams, clerk John Clark, mate Wm. Redman and T. M. Wells, pilots Bob Bowman, engineer
Dave White and Ike Walcott, stewards



 ${\it Photo given to Robert B. DeBlieux by Joseph Henry Sr., in Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives}$

Just at the edge of town on a high hill that overlooks the old churches, the tangled graveyards, the sweet rose gardens and the blue ribbon of rivers, there stands the normal school, a state institution of which we may all well be proud. It is a fine, mellow old mansion with deep porches and huge columns, a grand old building not unlike our city hall. It is old and shaky in some of the joints, but perhaps some day in an excess of virtue some legislature may give the money to repair and beautify it. It has now been in operation for about four years, and it is one of our ventures into advanced methods that has paid well so far.

Catharine Cole, c. 1889



Pledge signed by Cammie Garrett

Louisiana State Pormal School. 1000

Leader, best of the some of the Section of Supermonth Sealer, best of the some of the Section of the Sealer of Study and regularly every sealer until I compile satisfactivity theory for warm of Study

Latin plaine may graduation, and therefolly state that it is my main when then to become a continued wither in the cause of Education in the State of Season.

Season.

Statehalecter, In Octob 2 Later 1857

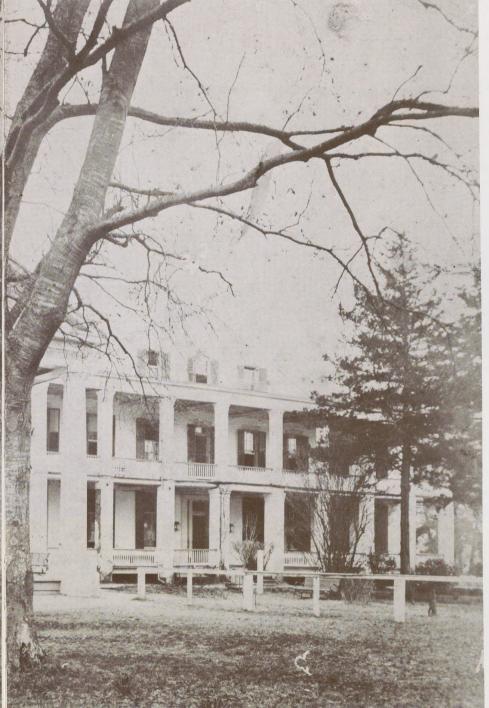
 $Melrose\ Collection,\ NSU\ Archives$

I, Cammie Garrett, desiring to become a Professional Teacher, hereby pledge myself, upon entering the Louisiana State Normal School, to conform to the regulations of this Institution, to attend punctually and regularly every session until I complete satisfactorily the regular course of Study.

I also pledge myself to teach in the Public Schools of Louisiana for one year after my graduation, and cheerfully state that it is my sincere intention to become a continued worker in the cause of Education in the State of Louisiana.

Cammie Garrett Natchitoches, La. Oct. 12th 1887





George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives



George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives

Cammie Garrett [Henry]



George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

Sketch above by Willie Jack, 1889

Convent and Matron's Building, State Normal

Front Street at Touline, looking north



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

New Inn Hotel, southwest corner of Front and Touline Streets



Eile of hosfital of Jean Baftiste Melrose Collection, NSU Archives Prud homme, chiungen du Kon.



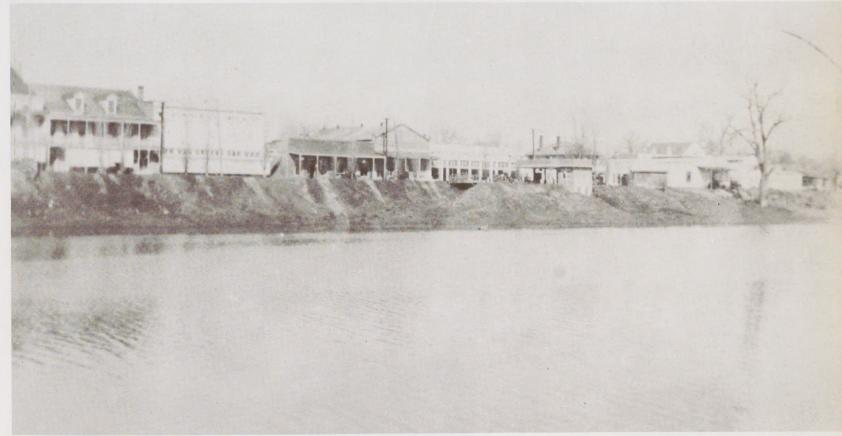
Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

Front Street from across the river, 1927: (left to right) Mrs. Rogers millinery, New Inn Hotel, Elks Home, Motor Inn, Peoples Hardware, Peoples Furniture, J. & A. Prudhomme.

Service Station, Front Street south of the present Chamber of Commerce building.



Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

Front Street from across the river, 1927: (left to right) Ducournau, Kaffie General Mdse. & Hardware, Express Office, Gas Company, Natchitoches Motor Company, Frost & Johnson.

Natchitoches still cherishes her ancient ideals and traditions with a regard that borders on reverence, but in latter years has turned her face toward the future and is rapidly assuming her place in the very front rank of the progressive communities of the south. Of late old land marks have been swept away by the march of twentieth century progress. The hum of the hammer and saw is now heard on every hand and improvements that would fairly seem to stagger another city of like size are going on day by day until now the ancient aspect of the town to a degree is lost and a model city fashioned after the most progressive ideas of the twentieth century has reared its head.

Shreveport Times, 27 September 1903

First hand Office, one story
First Bank "

First hestatal of 20. Century
Established lyttom, A.I. Som payrac
who bought indruments from
Succe, of Dr. Terrett, brought
Dr. Lyncl of Dr Leake here. Then
abled record story for
Dr. P.E. Backet ohis mother
He become internationally
moled as dermotologist
married Licilo Ducourner
My mother sold the brilding
in 1924. Doorway were
Loken to Strengfort.



First Bank of Natchitoches

Melrose Collection, NSU Archives



1892 telephone, Bermuda, La.

Courtesy Mrs. J. Alphonse Prudhomme

Julie C. Built by the Silsby Mfg. Co., Seneca Falls, N.Y. Cost

This old fire-fighter was bought and delivered at Natchitoches in the Autumn of 1891. There was a big celebration upon the occasion, and it was christened "Julie C." in honor of Miss Julie Caspari, the most beautiful young lady of Natchitoches, and the daughter of Captain Caspari, one of its most enterpris-

ing citizens.

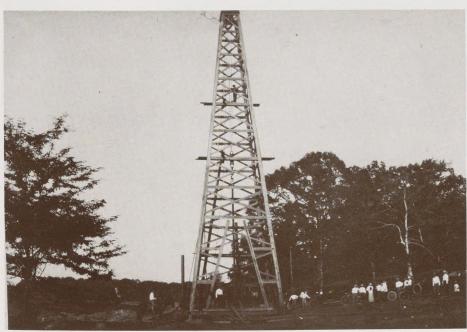
The ceremonies were conducted by Rev. Durier. At the time the engine was first tested it threw a stream of water from the lake on Front Street over the tower of the Methodist Church

100 ft. high and two blocks away.

When grading the site for the new depot, an old shed sheltering the discarded old engine and some other city equipment had to be removed, and it now stands near Trudeau Street unprotected and vandals have robbed it of its valves and even the name plate, like many things of its kind after outliving its usefulness it has no protector. usefulness it has no protector.

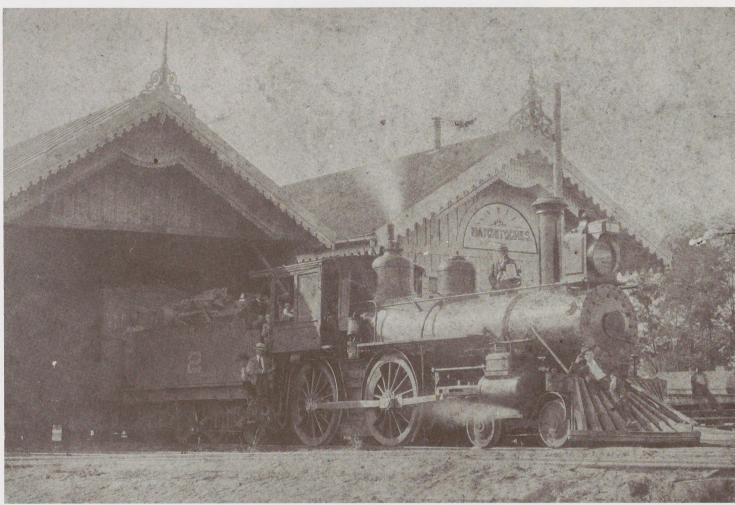
A. Babb, "My Sketch Book"





Courtesy Mrs. J. Alphonse Prudhomme

Wooden oil derrick, "Blossom No. 1," Campti, 1913



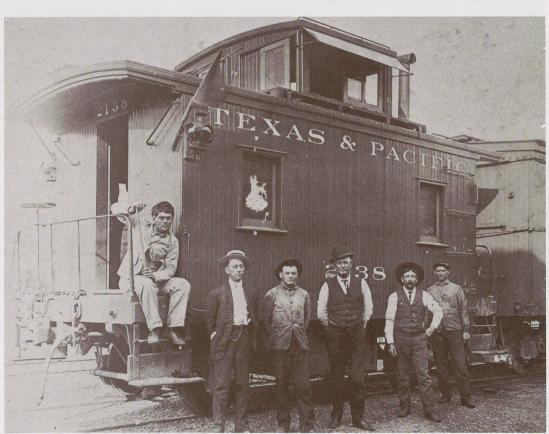
Courtesy Mrs. J. Alphonse Prudhomme

"The common time necessary to make a voyage from Natchitoches to and from New

Natchitoches to and from New Orleans is from thirty to forty days." So writes Mr. William Darby in his Geographical Description of Louisiana, Southern Mississippi and Alabama, published in 1817.

How things have changed! Now a single night's ride out of New Orleans in a palace car on the Texas and Pacific R.R., brings us to Cypress, twelve miles from Natchitoches. Here we change cars. The less said about breakfast the better! We never did believe in early never did believe in early breakfast anyway. The journey is finished on the Natchitoches Railroad.

Rev. Charles H. Crawford



Texas & Pacific train crew, c. 1905

Courtesy Mrs. J. Alphonse Prudhomme



Courtesy Mrs. J. Alphonse Prudho

Far left: Grand Ecore

Left: Bayou Natchez railroad station

bridge.



Courtesy Mrs. J. Alphonse Prudhomme



Courtesy Mrs. J. Alphonse Prudhomme

The Natchitoches Railway and Construction company, an offspring of the Progressive League, is composed of the leading progressive citizens of the town of Natchitoches, who by voluntary subscriptions raised a fund in cash, which formed the nucleus of the capital with which the Grand Ecore bridge across the Red river was built. The tax payers of ward one, including the town of Natchitoches, voted a 5 mills tax and the police input pladged a part of the regular revenues of the pagish police jury pledged a part of the regular revenues of the parish

to meet the cost of the bridge, a modern steel structure erected at a cost of nearly \$100,000. The bridge was completed and accepted in May, 1902, and since that time it has been open for the free use of the people, and has already proven a valuable feeder to the business interests of the town of Natchitoches, as well as a great convenience to the people.

Shreveport Times, 27 September 1903

After you are baptized, you must give up your sinful ways, and play and sing hymn-tunes, or spirituals, or 'ballots,' or 'jump-up' songs about folks in the Bible. Some of them are lively enough. There's that one beginning:

Delilah wuz a woman,
fine an' fair,
Pleasant-lookin' wid her
coal-black hair . . .

That was a grand one, with its surging refrain:
Oh, if I wuz Sampson,
I'd pull dat buildin' down!"
Lyle Saxon, "Cane River"



Lyle Saxon photo, NSU Archives



Lyle Saxon photo, NSU Archives



Lyle Saxon photo, NSU Archives



Lyle Saxon photo, NSU Archives



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

Natchitoches, the parish seat, has a population of 3,388. It is centrally located, is the most important trading and shipping point in the parish . . . A small steamboat plies Cane River Lake. There is very little traffic on Red River.

The main country roads of the parish are good most of the

year. Roads on the sandy front lands of the river bottoms are very good through winter and spring, but are somewhat heavy through the summer. Stretches in the stiff lands of the bottom are good in summer, but are at times impassable in winter.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Survey of Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana, 1925



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

The Texas and Pacific Railway has recently built a modern and beautiful passenger station in the City of Natchitoches. The people are justly proud of it and take pleasure in showing it to visitors. President Lancaster of the "TP" has the knack of putting beauty and dignity into structures built for useful purposes, without adding materially to the cost of them. The Natchitoches station is a notable example.

The main waiting room is a replica of the Master's Cabin of the Santa Maria, the famous little ship in which Columbus made his first voyage to the New World. Local color is given to it by making the drop from each chandelier, a reproduction of the hilt of the sword of St. Denis, the famous founder of Natchitoches.

W. R. Lence, "Historic Natchitoches," 1931

Right: Poster advertising a play by Hilda Perini Below: Washington Street looking south



society. The people are excessively fond of balls and dancing. It

Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

Natchitoches . . . is a very old town, having been established 100 years ago. There are many French and Spanish houses in it, and a considerable number of Spaniards still inhabit it . . . and the opulent planters have houses in the town, for the sake of

MONDAY

PLAYS BY THE

L. S. N. C. Dramatic Club

"La Tetue"

Original Play by HILDA PERINI at 7:30

"Mr. Pim Passes By"

Three-Act Comedy by A. A. MILNE at 8:15

AMUSU

ADMISSION: - - 50 Cents

MONDAY

Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

has a respectable society, and a weekly newspaper, in French and English.

Timothy Flint, A Condensed Geography and History of the Western States, or the Mississippi Valley, 1828

Thomas Duckett Boyd, president of Louisiana State Normal, 1888-1896, with faculty and students



George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives

. . . The president, Col. Thomas D. Boyd, is the right man in the right place. The wonderful smoothness in the management of the school, the earnestness of the teachers, and the enthusiasm of the pupils, show what can be done by a man with a genius for

administration, assisted by a corps of teachers who have a genuine interest in their life-work.

Official Journal of the Senate of the State of Louisiana, 1890

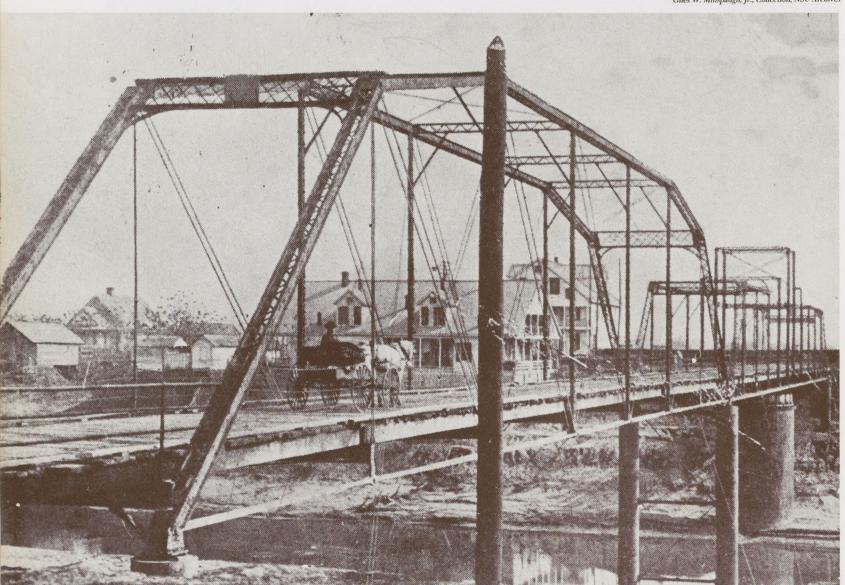
The magnificent iron draw-bridge which spans Cane River opposite this city was built by the Youngstown Bridge Co., of Youngstown, Ohio. It was begun in September 1893, and finished in February, 1894. It is 16 feet wide, 480 feet long, and cost \$15,500. This amount was raised, and the construction superintended, by the Natchitoches Cane River Bridge Co., a corporation which was organized for this purpose in 1890. The company raised by private subscription, \$3500; the Parish contributed \$6000 and the City of Natchitoches, \$6000. The bridge is free and is owned jointly by the City and Parish of Natchitoches. Aside from its beauty and convenience to those who can now take pleasure drives along the beautiful banks of the Cane who can now take pleasure drives along the beautiful banks of the Cane, without the expense and inconvenience of a ferry, it will add greatly to the large country business done by our merchants. The bridge is something we wanted, and needed badly. It is a lasting monument to the energy of its promoters, and a worthy testimonial to the enterprise of this community.

Commencement Bulletin issued by the Comus Club, Natchi-

toches, 26 May 1894



Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives



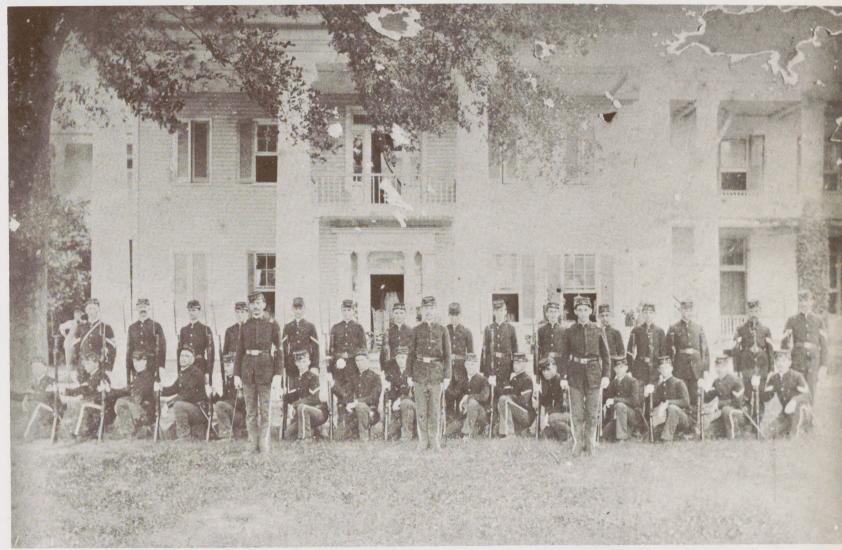
Church Street bridge, looking east

Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives

The Union Colonel Vifquin, quartered on the Tauzin family, suspected the Sacred Heart Convent as a possible storehouse for ammunition. After planting guns in the American Cemetery and training them on the school, he demanded that the institution submit to a thorough search. Mother Superior hoisted a white flag and gave the girls a few hasty words regarding good conduct. No sooner had the students caught sight of the Union-

ists than they shouted excitedly, "Yankees! Yankees! Come see the Yankees!" For this breach of etiquette the students were penalized for a week; a letter of formal apology was forwarded to Colonel Vifquin. Needless to say that the search proved fruitless in yielding either ammunition or fugitives.

Sister Mary Silverius Karnowski, "Natchitoches During the Civil War and Reconstruction Period"



George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives

Federal troops quartered at Sacred Heart Academy (Bullard Mansion) c. 1876

The house was a six-room, long, shambling affair, shrinking together from decrepitude. There was not an entire pane of glass in the structure; and the Turkey-red curtains flapped in and out of the broken apertures.

Kate Chopin, Bayou Folk



Aubert Roque house at its original site

Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives

Aubert Roque house on the Cane River-front

a fastel



Courtesy B. A. Cohen



Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives



Old Natchitoches Parish jail

 $Giles\ W.\ Millspaugh,\ Jr.,\ Collection,\ NSU\ Archives$



Church of the Immaculate Conception, 1898

Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives

There were those who declared Uncle Israel to be illiterate, and he never argued the point. He stoutly maintained, however, that in the years following slavery, he had a vision one night in which the Lord appeared. During this visitation Uncle Israel had promised the Almighty that if God would only let him have sufficient understanding to read the Bible, he would never read any other page in print. The Lord readily entered in to the agreement, as the story went, and it wasn't long before Uncle Israel had found himself a church, Primer (i.e. "Plymouth") Rock, across the river.

He always carried his Bible with him and his congregation, not fussy about the finer theological points, always seemed satisfied with the message flowing from his lips, once he had mounted the pulpit, opened the Good Book and begun his oration.

François Mignon

François Mignon, Plantation Memo, 1972



Courtesy Joseph Henry, Sr.

Anited States of America,
STATE OF LOUISIANA.
Original No. 9 11 Mond District.
REGISTER'S OFFICE.
PARISH OF A State of the
OATH.
I, Inal Suddath do solemnly
swear, or affirm, in the presence of Almighty God, that I am a citizen of the State
of Shall anee, that I have resided in said State for
- Olwell's porths next preceding this day, and now reside in the county of
the case may be that I am two years ald; that I have not been disfrarableed for nor
the case may be; that I am twenty-one years old; that I have not been disfranchised for participation in any rebellion or civil war against the United States, nor for felony committed against
the laws of any of the United States; that I have never been a member of any State Legisla-
ture, nor held any executive or judicial office in any State, and afterwards engaged in insurrec-
tion or rebellion against the United States, and given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof;
that I have never taken an oath as a member of Congress of the United States, or as an officer
of the United States, or as a member of any State Legislature, or as an executive or judicial
officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, and afterwards engaged in
insurrection and rebellion again the United States, or given aid or confort to the enemies
thereof: that I will faithfully support the Constitution and obey the laws of the United States,
and will, to the best of my ability, encourage others so to do. So help me God."
Danal his Suddath
I do hereby certify that of this It any of May
1867 appeared before me Isnal Suddash who
subscribed to the foregoth outh. Of This good
- Thegisler.
DUPLICATE.



Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archive

September 9, 1852. The Police Jury of this parish in session today promised \$250,000 payable in 5 successive yearly installments to be levied by tax on the real estate of this parish, the whole to be employed in the making of a railroad from this place connecting with the New Orleans and Opelousas railroad. This ordinance shall not be binding until approved by a majority of the legal voters of the parish. The election on this question will take place on the first Tuesday of November, the day immediately following the presidential election.

October 8, Friday. Mr. P. G. Campbell left for Cloutierville,

where he has been invited to make a speech, at a Railroad Barbecue to be held there tomorrow.

October 10, Sunday. We got news of the Cloutierville Railroad Barbecue. The whole thing went off admirably, and there was some fine speaking done, by I. G. Campbell, Hyams and Henry Hertzog on the railroad movement. The latter spoke in French.

November 3, Wednesday . . . The vote went here in favor of the Democrats and rail road tax.

[typed copy] Lestan Prudhomme Diary, Melrose Collection



Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives

Of recent years, the Natchitoches railroad has been built to Cypress, some twelve miles distant on the Texas and Pacific railroad, through which the town has regular communication with all trains on that great road. Captain L. Caspari, the President of the Natchitoches railroad is one of the leading and most enterprising residents of the town and not only is he to be credited for the construction of this road, but for the establishment

of the State Normal School, at Natchitoches, for which he worked like a beaver while representing his parish in the Legislature . . . The Natchitoches railroad is being extended in the direction of Shreveport; an iron bridge is about to be constructed, both of which will greatly increase the business of the town.

Louisiana Review, 1893

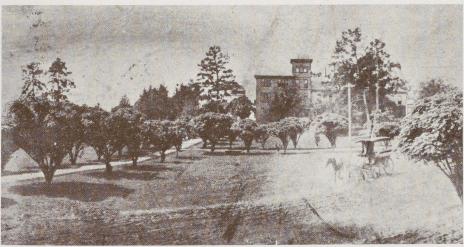
Ceremony of turning on the first gas in Natchitoches, at a building on St. Denis Street, c. 1926



Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives



Marcia Harrison Collection, NSU Archives



Marcia Harrison Collection, NSU Archives

Normal Campus, 1907

What I recommended to our committee and what it in turn recommended to the State Board relative to the home economics cottage is that we should erect, instead of a \$16,000 or \$18,000 two-story fireproof building such as we had under consideration six months ago, a modest cottage of frame construction such as our girls are likely to use when they go out into the world and perhaps take charge of homes. The head of our department of home economics, Miss Weeks, who is now away on leave of absence, never approved the plan of spending a large sum of money on her cottage. Lately she had been very strong in the conviction that the cottage should not cost over \$5,000 or \$6,000. To be on the safe side, our committee recommended that we set aside \$7,000. My plan is to have an ordinary sketch made by one of our local builders: buy the material ourselves: and have the building erected under the direct supervision of our superintendent. In other words, the house would be built in the same way in which a number of people here in Natchitoches have erected houses in the last two or three years.

In fact I have had a rough sketch made already, and it appears that we shall be able to erect the necessary cottage with four bedrooms, living room, dining room, kitchen, two bath rooms, a large sleeping porch, and closets in every bedroom, for something less than \$6,000.

Letter from President V. L. Roy to Hon. J. N. Gourdain, 19 September 1924



Report of Colonel Brent, Confederate States Army, regarding engagement with Federal fleet near junction of Cane and Red Rivers, April 26-27, 1864.

On the morning of the 26th of April two gunboats of the enemy, one an iron-plated monitor, supposed to be the Osage, and the other of the class called tin-clad, mounting eight guns and protected by about an inch of iron, were discovered lying near DeLoach's Bluff, in Red River.

Benton's rifle section, Captain Benton commanding, and

Nettle's smoothbore section, Lieutenant Smith commanding (Captain Nettles present), supported by Major Williams with a battalion of sharp-shooters, were placed in position and opened

fire on the tin-clad who, after severe punishment, rapidly fled after an engagement of thirty minutes.

The iron-plated monitor poured a heavy enfilading fire on the artillery and its support, but no attention was paid to it, in obedience to general artillery orders not to reply to the fire of the iron-plated monitors are unable fire was directed on the the iron-plated monitors, and our whole fire was directed on the eight-gun gunboat.



Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives



Robert DeBlieux and Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collections, NSU Archives

It's the Cane, Cane, Cane River Country . . .

Ex-home of ole steam boats
That used to ply the river bed
With cattle, pigs and goats . . .
The age-old town of Natchitoches . . .

Grillwork, bricks made by hand
Lives on despite time's
changing trends . . .
In the Cane River Country Land.

Norm Fletcher, *The Cane River Country Land*, © 1976

The W. T. Scovell at Front Street, 1908

How do you like to walk out on the street, Outside the stile, so free? Oh, I do think it the jolliest feat Ever the people see.

Over the bridge, and 'round and 'round, Led by a teacher tall, Till boys and houses and towns seem bound By teacher, pupils and all.

Down one walk, up another side, Back to the corner, then Around the first walk we laughing stride, And up the other again.

While people look down on our countless throng,
Down on the merry file,
Till up the street we go marching along,
Back to the Normal stile.

Potpourri, 1911

WHICH TOCHES

EROM ERST SIDE

CHNE RIVER

Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives

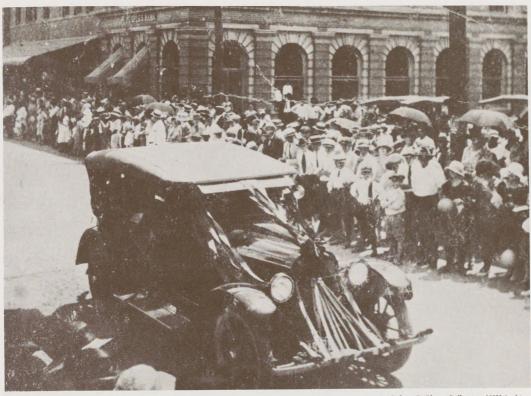


Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives



Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives

Top: Natchitoches from the east side of Cane River Center: McClung's Drug Store Right: McClung's Drug Store



Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives

Two views of Front Street on Trades Day



Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives

The well organized practice school, the new manual training rooms, the laboratories and library, the ventilating system in the academic building, the baths and screens in the dormitories, the beautiful grounds, with forest, lake and swimming pool, guarantee a delightful experience to those who come to take advantage of the excellent courses offered.

Louisiana State Normal School Catalog, 1911-1912



There's a perfectly, handsomely, youngiful boy Outside the stile just a-talking, And the beautiful, ugliful, wishiful girls Want to and can't go a-walking. Potpourri, 1912



George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives



Three views of the entrance to the Louisiana State Normal School



George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives

George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives

Normal Hill, from the lake



George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives

Oh! Who will walk a while with me along this oft-trod way?

A path where comrades of old times and new
From one another deepest secrets drew
Or lingered, as each sunny space was passed,
To watch the silent shadow-patterns cast.

Potpourri, 1912

Old Normal Walk with the convent building in the background



George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives

Hear the mellow dinner Bells,
Iron Bells!
What a world of rice and beans
their harmony foretells,
Through the balmy evening night
Or the happy noontime bright,
From the molten iron notes
From all around,
What a feeling floats
To the hungry girl that listens,
while she gloats
On the sound.
Potpourri, 1909

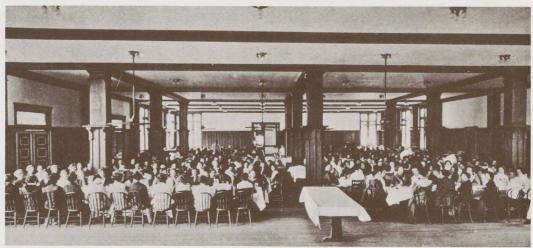


George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives



George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives

Views of the Louisiana State Normal School.
Top: library interior.
Center: tennis courts.
Bottom: dining hall.



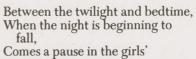
George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives



Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives



Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives



conversation That is known as the Study Hall.

We hear in the chambers above us The sound of Mrs. Keane's feet; The noise of a door that is opening, And a voice saying, soft and sweet:

"Girls, don't you know you must study?

We must not have any play, Or tomorrow I'll have to report

you, And what will the President say?" Potpourri, 1911

The Bullard Mansess was Build by Judge Charles adams Bullard. His gon Charles amos Bullard marned M. Mangelia Sonfayre II, level there and al tos adams Odalie Prud'homme, sester of Pierre Leston went to school here on 1800 5 or 18403



Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives

Views of the Louisiana State Normal School. Top: Matron's Building Center: Convent Building Bottom: The Quadrangle See Book on Sacrad Heart

Order.

By and by we came to an extensive meadow, interspersed with small plantations of tobacco and Indian corn; and here I could perceive on an eminence before us a square space, inclosed with large palisadoes standing close to each other, and driven into the ground. This I learned served as a fort to the settlement; beyond which, and at some distance, stood a number of little wooden houses, in a straight line but at large intervals from one another. They might amount, with a few others, which appeared scattered over the country, to the number of seventy, and constituted the whole French settlement on this part of Red River. The village and fort command an extensive prospect on the opposite side of the river; a prospect presenting a large meadow bounded on all sides by the woods, and plentifully stocked with cows and horses.

I lived here with the proprietor of the canoe, but was miserably accommodated, both in diet and lodging. The house was small, and dirty in the extreme; and our bread, made of rice

mixed with Indian corn, was of the very worst quality . . . It is difficult for the reader to imagine how much the air on Red River is contaminated by the horrid stench which arises from the urine and excrements of the alligator. Our biscuit was so impregnated with this horrible effluvia, that it had acquired the nauseous taste of rotten musk, but I supported my spirits under all those hardships with the prospect of making a short stay in this country.

The settlement of Natchitoches is computed to be a hundred and forty leagues NW from New Orleans; is of small extent, but tolerably populous; and the inhabitants, like all those of Louisiana are lively, well-formed in their persons, and inured to fatigue.

Pierre Marie Francois, Vicomte de Pages, *Travels Round the World in the Years 1768, 1769, 1770, 1771.* London, 1791-92



View of Natchitoches

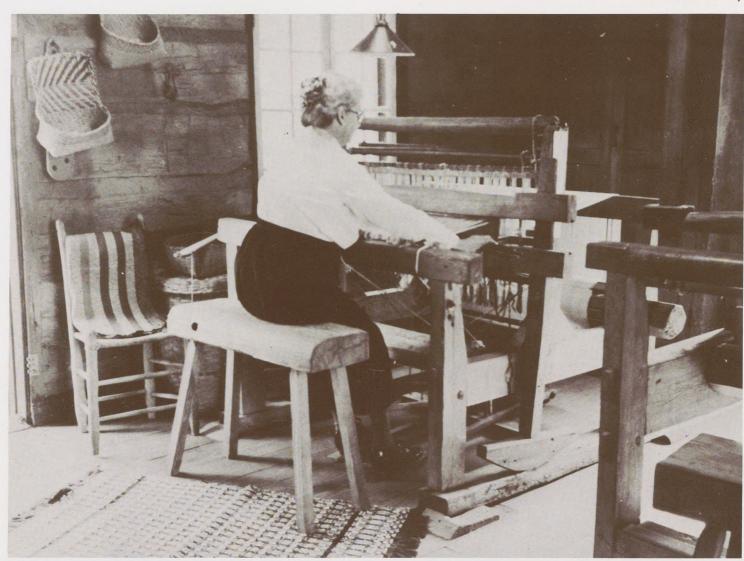
Saint Augustine Church, Isle Brevelle



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives



Marcotte's map, NSU Archives

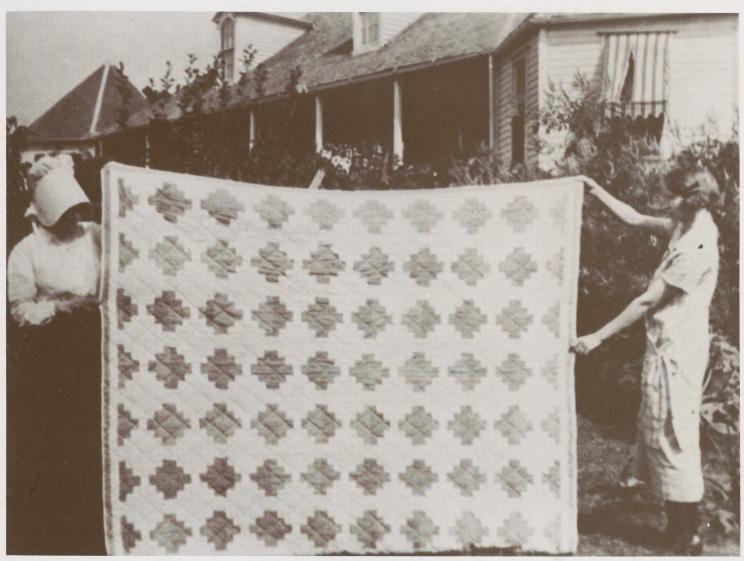


ant + Crafts club (of come Russ) was Joursed of I was able to introduce her to gertruse Roberts Smith of Newcomb Society + (
she should true there. Mrs Smith devoted
fermion to recreal of weaving in andrews
North Carolina, My Structo Loom
Sur Josegns was in Ne autolion.

The cabin is a home-made studio; its furnishings are carefully planned to be in keeping. This bed, the mattress, is handmade, too. Made on Melrose plantation. I saw them drying the moss with which it is stuffed, behind the plantation store. Saw the old negro woman, "pickin'" it free of sticks and leaves. That is the stuffing of the studio mattress. Its artistic cover, needless to say, was made by Mrs. Henry herself.

Mary Belle McKellar, "Melrose"

A cotton quilt made at Melrose



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

It's the Cane, Cane, Cane River Country . . .

So rich in cotton white . . .

Where man does work so all the day . . .

And lays to rest at night . . .

The bullfrogs bark a lusty song . . .

And crickets chirp in bands . . .

While moonbeams paint the lily pads . . .

In the Cane River Country Land .

The Cane River Country Land .

© 1976, Norm Fletcher

When I remember roadsides as they used to be, then look at the glaring speedways of today, I ask myself, after all, is speed the most important thing in the world? We drove to the country to see the dogwood in spring, the glory of maple and sweetgum in fall.

Caroline Dormon,

Natives Preferred



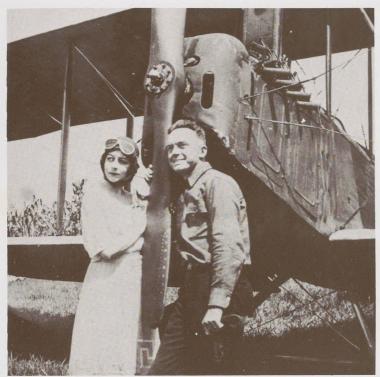
Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives



Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives



Three views of the opening of the Jefferson Highway (Highway 6) Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives



Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives

Little by little the Joyous Coast was changing. The old rutted dirt road that fringed the Cane had been abandoned. The highway cut through the swamps and marshy lands and fields full of corn and refused to follow the shim of the river . . . It even plowed its way through people's dooryards, rooting up ancient landmarks: oaks and chinas and gnarled crepe-myrtles, their branches bowed to the earth with bloom . . . Ada Jack Carver.

Ada Jack Carver, "Singing-Woman"

Left: Mrs. Etta Levy and the first airplane in town Below: Occupants of the car are not identified



Courtesy Mrs. J. Alphonse Prudhomme



Second binding of St. Mary's academy, of wood, I west to. grades 28) of here. It housed chafel and domitories it kitchen. This may have been the site of an ante-belliem manaron + garden kombly that of Treudeau.



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

Third binding of St. Mary's academy. I attended sixth through 12 m grades here. Sr. Mary and Sixth Blandina (high school) principal who went to Baton Rocepe, got recognition for diploma's. Sche was from alsace torraine. Sister of Twene Providence. This was yellow brick. at reach was as pentagoral wing for onusia classes.

St. Mary's Academy occupies a high rank. Situated near the center of the town, for beauty and healthfulness, the site cannot be excelled. Its commodious buildings stand upon a hill overlooking the Cane river valley . . . The house is a three story building, with separate departments for boys and girls. The building is furnished with all the modern contrivances which insure the health and comfort of teachers and pupils.

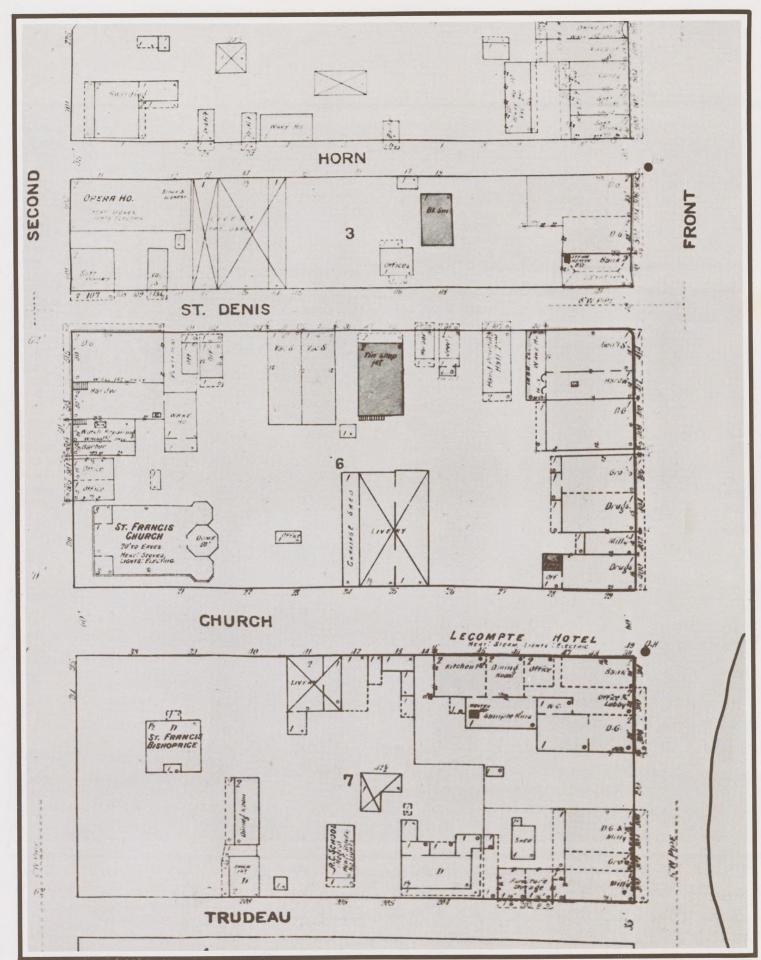
The male and female departments are separated entirely, but are similarly arranged. On the lower floor is found a well stocked library containing dictionaries, encyclopedias, histories and other works designed to assist the students . . .

The house dates its origin back to 1846 when it was occupied by the ladies of the Sacred Heart. After their removal to a larger and more comfortable convent in 1856, the buildings were used for St. Joseph College, established under the auspices of Bishop Martin.

The College was subsequently removed and the house again occupied as a convent by the Sisters of Mercy (about the year 1870). After some seven or eight years of labor they also left, from which time until 1888 no other religious institution was established.

In September of the above mentioned year, five sisters of Divine Providence arrived at Natchitoches from San Antonio, Texas, for the purpose of opening a boarding and day school. Their coming was at the request of Bishop Durier, of the diocese.

Commencement Bulletin issued by the Comus Club, 26 May 1894



Portion of the Sanborn Map of Natchitoches, May 1909

Map Collection, NSU Archives



Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson

Highway 1 North

Rail fence in Natchitoches Parish



Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson

Cattle graze on ranch at Cloutierville



Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson



Courtesy Robert DeBlieux



Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson



Courtesy B. A. Cohen

Top: wooden cotton press at Magnolia Plantation. Above left: cotton picker. Above right: cotton on gin platform.

76 — CANE RIVER COUNTRY Louisiana



Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson



Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson



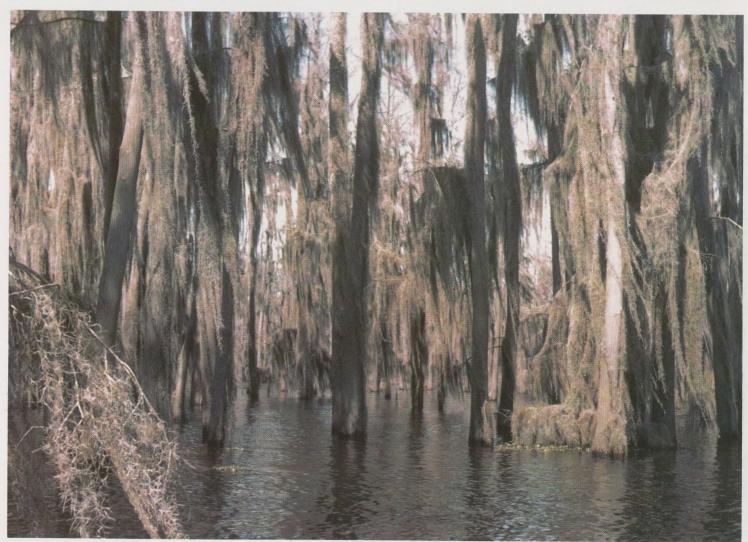
Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson

Top: Magnolia Plantation store. Above: magnolia blossom. Left: Old gasoline pump, Melrose.

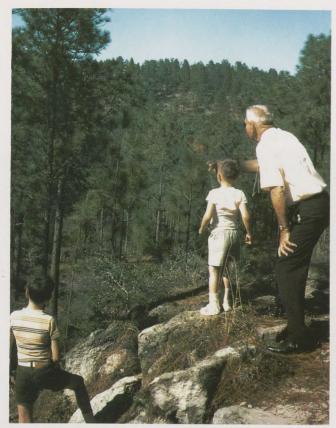


Right: Old River. Below: Saline Lake.

Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson



Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson



Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson

Left: Kisatchie Forest. Below: Trees in watercolor by Mary Belle DeVargas. Bottom: Saline Lake.



Courtesy NSU Archives



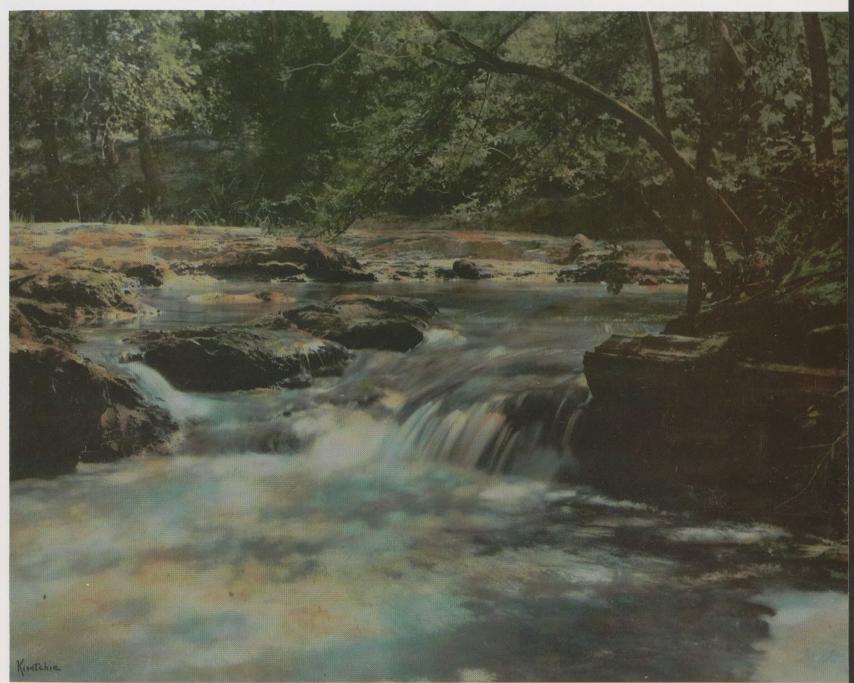
Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson

Prudhomme-Rouquier House, now owned by The Service League of Natchitoches, Inc.

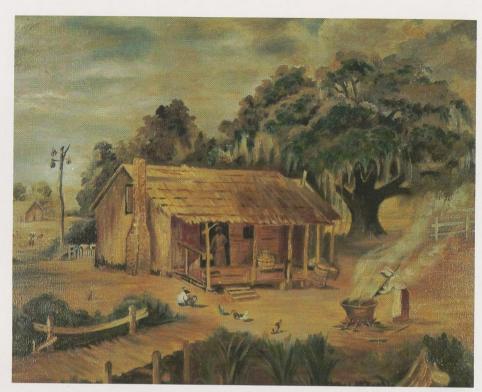


this site is south a the site of profesty and hospital of J. B. Prus homme, character and profesty with a housest slave to faregular marie house whom she marvied François Rouguer I

Waterfall in Kisatchie National Forest

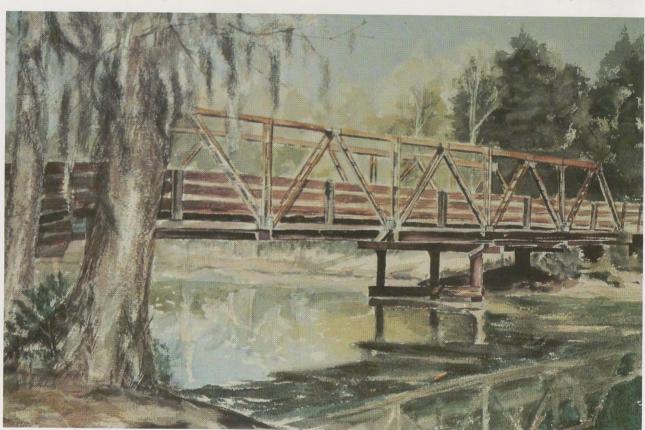


Courtesy Mrs. John Kyser; photo by the late Dr. John Kyser

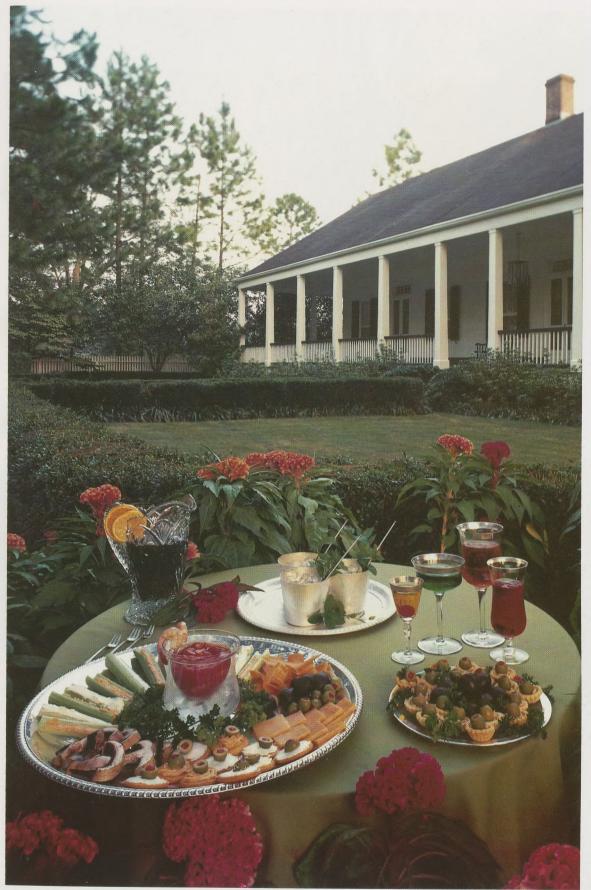


Right: Cane River cabin scene. Below: bridge near Sang Pour Sang.

Courtesy Mrs. Mina McKaskle



Courtesy Mary Carolyn Roberts



 $Courtesy\ the\ Service\ League\ of\ Natchitoches,\ Inc.,\ @\ Cane\ River\ Cuisine;\ photo\ by\ John\ C..\ Guillet$



Right: Old Russell Cemetery fence, gate. Below: Mansfield Confederate Park

Courtesy Mary Carolyn Roberts



Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson



Left: Fort Jesup. Below: Rebel State Park, Marthaville.

Courtesy B: A. Cohen



Courtesy B. A. Cohen



Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson



Courtesy B. A. Cohen



Courtesy Don Sepulvado

Left: Ironwork silhouetted by a sunset. Below: Old Natchitoches train station.



Temsled before the defression, chandalies were repliced of St. Denis's word - still there.

Courtesy Mary Carolyn Roberts



Clementine Hunter abstract.

"Picking cotton", a primitive by Clementine Hunter.

Courtesy Mrs. Carol Wells



Courtesy NSU Archives



Courtesy B. A. Cohen



Courtesy B. A. Cohen



Courtesv B. A. Cohen

Left: a trilogy of Bermuda (water pump), Melrose (spinning wheel), and Natchez (water well, bucket). Below: George Lewis home, Isle Brevelle.



Courtesy Adrian's Photography



Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson

Above: Sunset silhouettes church on Magnolia Plantation. Right: a robin poses



Courtesy Harold Wales



Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives

... magnolia leaves gleamed and seemed to smile in the sunshine. Hardy rosevines clinging to old stuccoed pillars plumed themselves and bristled their leaves with satisfaction. And the violets peeped out to see if it was all over.

"Ah! this is a southern day," I uttered with deep gratification as I leisurely crossed the bridge afoot. A warm, gentle breeze was stirring. On the opposite side, a dear old lady was standing in her dear old doorway for me.

Kate Chopin, "A December Day in Dixie"

Plank walk across Cane River, 1914



View of Natchitoches from the East bank, turn of the century

Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives

Below: Natchitoches Brass Band, 1905 Bottom: Louisiana State Normal baseball team, 1903/4



In the ball team picture are George Williamson, with hat in center; players Marcus Dismukes, Frank Cook, Sidney Cook, [---] Raggio, [---] Raggio; others not identified.

Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives



 ${\it Giles~W.~Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU~Archives}$

A well-lighted and ventilated room, occupying the main portion of the second story of Boyd Hall and formerly used as an auditorium, is now used as a gymnasium . . . Most of the athletic work required of students is done outdoors. This consists chiefly of basket-ball, ten-

nis, volley ball, football, baseball and track work, for each of which the necessary courts are provided.

are provided.

Louisiana State Normal College Catalog, 1921.



Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives

Left: Gymnastics class, Spring 1921. Below: Natchitoches baseball team.



Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives

The plantation was very quiet, with that stillness which broods over broad, clean acres that furnish no refuge for so much as a bird that sings. The negroes were scattered about the fields at work, with hoe and plow, under the sun

Kate Chopin, Bayou Folk.



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

The road into the town drops out of the purple mist of the hill-sides and follows the winding thread of Cane River, past neglected, weed-choked fields, past singing willows, moist and cool, past a ravine overhung with tropic verdure, past outlying negro cabins bright with gaudy sunflowers, past a sunlit waste of bitter-weed, — and, its momentum spent with the long descent, straggles by the picket fence of the old Lamarie home.

Ada Jack Carver, "The Joyous Coast."



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

Left: Natchitoches Art Colony paintings on display. Below: Natchitoches Art Colony cabin.



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

It is lazy and sweet along the Côte Joyeuse and on into the piney red-clay hills; for Time has been kind to Natchitoches. At the Resurrection season every year an Art Colony descends

upon it with pallet and brush to paint its decaying witchery against the glory of massed crepe-myrtles.

Ada Jack Carver, "Redbone."

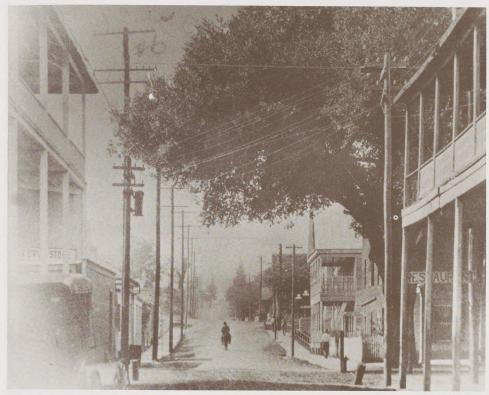


Right: Palace Cafe, Front Street Below: Live Oak Hotel, Second and St. Denis Streets, burned c. 1933.

Melrose Collection, NSU Archives



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives



Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives

Left: Live Oak Corner, 1911 Below: Live Oak Corner



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

I feel that, as things are here, & are likely to remain, I ought to hunt a new home; for my own & the children's sake. . . . It is true that we are cursed beyond measure by misgovernment, & that, owing to my intense disgust at the corruptions about me, & my uncomplying, (bad perhaps) temper, I have not, since the war, made a living at my profession, & that we have even suffered from want of clothing, every one of us, & been other-

wise destitute, in consequence; & that now, things have arrived to that point that even the most compliant, the most cringingly & corrupt, supple, can glean but scarcity in the impoverished field. Yet I am loth to give up.

Henry Safford
Safford Collection, NSU Archives

My favorite walk is down a hill, along a winding path, between my house and the pond. It twists and dips and rises, with an occasional shrub, and around that a new vista. Where there is a sudden small drop, one or two flat brown rocks have been sunk to serve as steps. Here native azaleas have done well . . .

Caroline Dormon, Natives Preferred Fresher of the United States of Imerica.

From Ye, that reposing special test and confidence in the Galegicky exact. Midely I do appoint her a limite of the Temesian states and confidence in the Galegicky exact. Midely I do appoint her a limite of the Temesian states and states and some states and states and some states and states and some states and to had been and to find the same states and precise so the dates of that I fine accreting belief the dates of that I fine accreting belief appetiationing anterior the said Mid Caroline Section and institutes proscribed by law.

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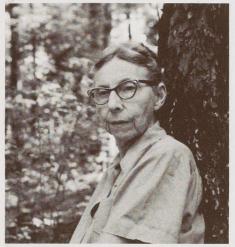
Right: De Soto Commission appointment signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Below: Caroline Dormon at Briarwood.

Caroline Dormon Collection, NSU Archives



Caroline Dormon Collection, NSU Archives

Below: Caroline Dormon at "Grandpappy" tree. Lower left: "Wild Cherry", a seedling of two Abbeville irises, drawn by Caroline Dormon. Lower right: "Southern reed-cane", drawn by Caroline Dormon.



Caroline Dormon Collection, NSU Archives

September 4, 1964

... the committee unanimously recommends the nomination of Miss Dormon for the honorary degree of Doctor of Science.
The bases for such a nomination are:

1. Her publications as a botanist and botanical illustrator.

2. Her services to forestry conservation, in particular her promotion of Kisatchie National Forest.

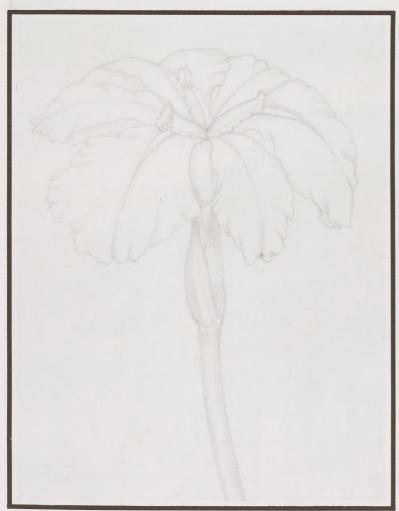
3. Her contributions to horticulture

through publications, lectures, and successful experiments in hybridizing Louisiana irises.

4. Her services to archeological and ethnological studies of the American Indian, especially as a member of the DeSoto Expedition Commission.

Cecil G. Taylor, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, Louisiana State

University.



Caroline Dormon Collection, NSU Archives



Caroline Dormon Collection, NSU Archives

Wednesday March 30 The road all the way to Natchitoches, a distance of 18 miles one could say was a solid flame, and the air was completely permeated with the smell of burning cotton. My heart was filled with sadness at the sight of those lovely plantations in flames, and to see the work of the honest industry and perseverance of those good old Creole planters destroyed in the twinkling of an eye ... Tonight the enemy is camped 15 miles from Natchitoches. Thursday March 31 This morning, Natchitoches was completely evacuated by our authorities and I set out for Pleasant Hill ... and traveled through interminable pine forests ... This evening the enemy entered Natchitoches at 5 o'clock after a serious skirmish with our cavalry — two or three of our men were killed.

Felix Pierre Poché, A Louisiana Confederate



Courtesy B. A. Cohen



This is where a lot 3 St, wide was ques to make walk on Horn St, Winding Fair at rear,

Courtesy B. A. Cohen

Ducournau Square area, now and then



Courtesy B. A. Coher

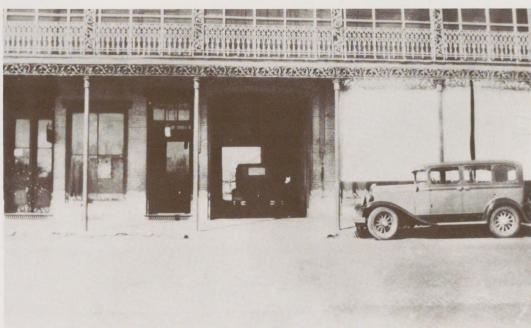


Photo by SSW(?)

Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

Methodist Church built early in the twentieth century and razed about 1954



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives



View of Natchitoches, July 1911

Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

Over the roof of my neighbor's house
An old magnolia tree
Is appliqued upon the sky
In leafy greenery.
Grace Tarleton Aaron, "Magnolias"

Bir west side of Grand Ecore Rd, Half way



BOXING

Monday, May 12, 1941

AT 8:00 P. M.

At Jackson Square Arena Natchitoches, La. GENE LYDELL, 151

THAD LEE.

EIGHT ROUNDS

Frank Sias, 150 vs Frank Rogers, 145

Six Rounds

Four Rounds

KID MOORE 146

SAM RAMM 128

KID BAILEY 146

KID HARDY 132

POP EYE, The Sailor 48

Four Rounds

DUCKING GRAHAM 44

It was the month of April . . . and the hot sun that had flamed since early dawn with a heat known only to southern lowlands, was at last casting long lazy shadows across

the cabin with its rickety gallery and honeysuckle vine. No cloud appeared in the hot brassy sky with a promise of relief from the unusual heat that billowed in suf-

focating waves from the swamp and nearby canebrakes of the sluggish Bayou Pierre.

Bayou Pierre, 1939.

Aida Mumford Gilvin and James Everett Mumford, The Witch of

Four Rounds

THE POLICE DEPARTMENT GUARANTEES PERFECT ORDER

ADMISSION - Whites 25c

Colored 25c

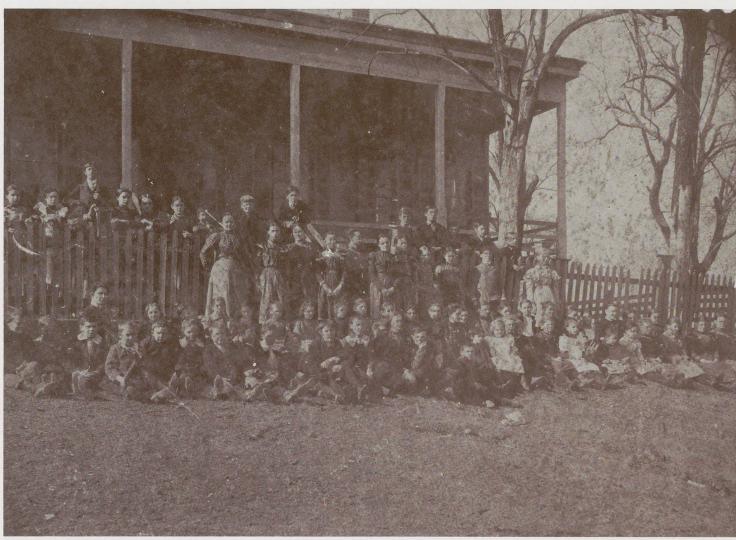
Children 10c

Melrose Collection, NSU Archives



Top left: crawfishing Top right: boxing poster

Above: Breazeale Springs



George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives

The Natchitoches Grammar School

The old schoolhouse, which has lately been renovated, has seen three generations pass through its class-rooms, and is one of the old landmarks of the place. The school has been known by different names, and was, at times, but indifferently attended, until the opening of the Normal School gave an impetent to the advention. tus to education.

Since then, some of its higher classes have been graded to facilitate the entrance of its pupils to the State Normal School as soon as they become of proper age.

It is now under the skillful management of Prof. Leon Gre-

neaux and Miss M. Greneaux, who have raised it to its present standard. The former is a graduate of St. Louis University, Mo., and the latter of St. Michael's Convent, La., and also of the Lousiana State Normal School.

The number of pupils enrolled last session was 84, and several were refused admission for want of room.

It is now in a most prosperous condition, with the best of feeling existing between teachers, children and parents, which gives assurance of success.

26 May 1894, Commencement Bulletin published by the Natchitoches Comus Club

The Murphy family at Cherokee Plantation. Row one: Lou May Murphy, Linnie Murphy; seated behind: Robert Calvert Murphy, holding Emerson Murphy; Lee Tatum, George Robert Murphy, Martha Gully Murphy, Elizabeth Murphy Tatum, holding Perry Tatum. Standing: John Murphy, Fanny Murphy Hunsicker, Mattie Murphy.



Courtesy Mrs. William Nolan



Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives

State Normal School September 14, 1915

Men's Club Rules We, the men of the Boy's Club, promise to enforce these regulations:

All rooms shall be inspected by monitors every morning . . . Article II

In using the stools every one must be seated, or both boards must be turned back . . . Article III

Rubbish must not be thrown in the slop jars or bath tubs or sinks . . .

Article IV
There shall be no smoking in the building at any time...
Article V
Everyone must be in bed and lights out at 10 o'clock...



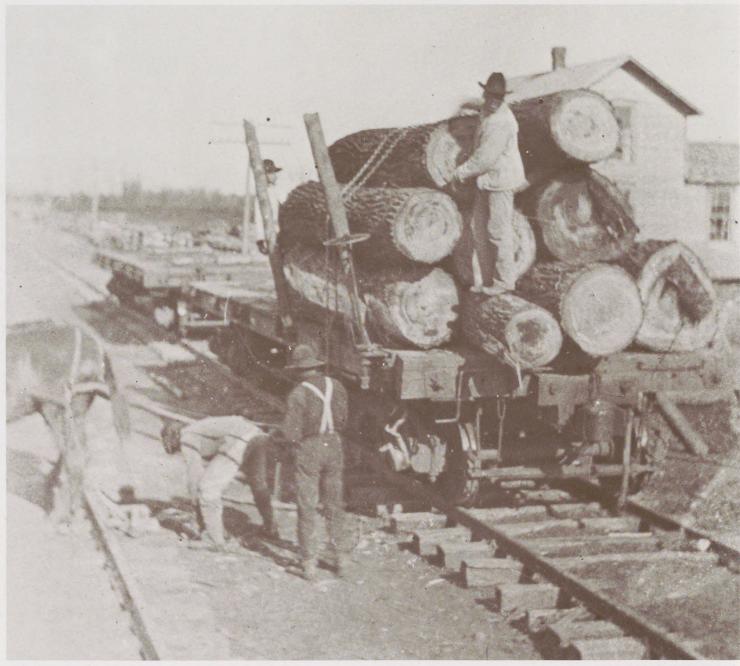
Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives

Normal College Song
by Ross Maggio
Awake and praise our Alma Mater,
And let our hearts unfold;
Let us sing of brave vic-tries,
Of her traditions old.
Then let us stand and swear allegiance
And raise our banners high,
For Alma Mater ever honor
While from our hearts we cry
Chorus
All hail Alma Mater;
All hail to our college,
The mother of wisdom,
The fountain of light;
And we make our pledges
To ever honor thee.
May God in his goodness
Protect her with His might.

... then for five long miles we passed on through a country the scenery of which would have made the heart of an artist leap with joy, and if could be reproduced on canvass would make the painter's fame and fortune, first along the banks of a spring stream, then across its silvery waters, then up the hillside to the crests where the rarified air as blew through the tall pines and green oaks would put the Colorado climate to shame, on and on we followed our leader, (Morris) Aaron, who was some time in the road and again would take a short cut with true woodsman's instinct where neither road nor bridal path marked the way, to the 'cut' where the foreign speculator had come and bought for a song the rich timber as far as the eye can reach, made a fortune and departed, leaving but a barren waste of stumps to remind us of our folly. "Log of Hunting Party." 1905



Caroline Dormon Collection, NSU Archives



Courtesy Mrs. J. Alphonse Prudhomme

... Have you ever traveled through a real forest of long-leaf pines? Your syndicate owns a great area in the sand-hills of North Louisiana; as lovely a stretch of country as one can find. If you have ever seen it, I feel sure the beauty of it must have gripped you. There are large areas of this wild hill country where your tram lines have not yet penetrated. The clear streams are full of fish, the woods of birds and game; there are even a

few deer and wild turkey still be be found there. The pines have not yet been gashed and marred

The pines have not yet been gashed and marked by turpentining.

As you of course know, the longleaf pines are rapidly disappearing. Under existing conditions, they do not reforest; and, as things stand, in a short time they will be a memory . . ."

Caroline Dormon, 1920. Dormon Collection, NSU Archives

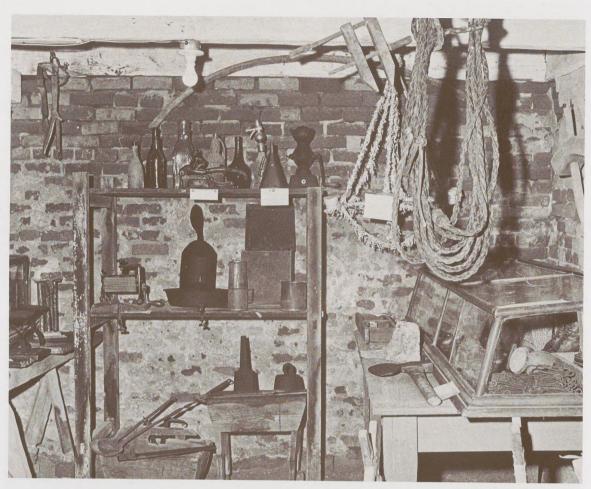


Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives

Top: Montrose logging camp, 1890. Dave Bains in the center Below: Steam engines owned by the Weaver Brothers, Natchitoches Parish, early 20th century

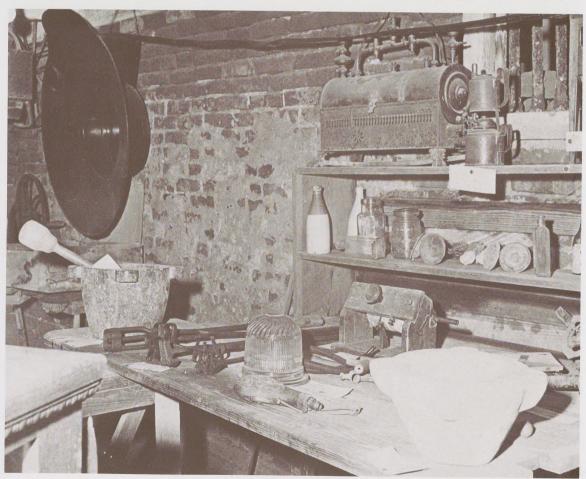


Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives



Both photos: Oakland Plantation, Museum

Courtesy Mrs. J. Alphonse Prudhomme



Courtesy Mrs. J. Alphonse Prudhomme



Courtesy Mrs. J. Alphonse Prudhomme

Without the modern instruments for well-drilling, (P. Phanor) Prudhomme set about having his own made. To this task he assigned Solomon Williams, the plantation blacksmith . . . The augurs were exceptionally fine pieces of blacksmithing. They resembled machine-made tools more than the handiwork of a slave blacksmith. One of the augurs has a double point and is almost perfect in workmanship . . .

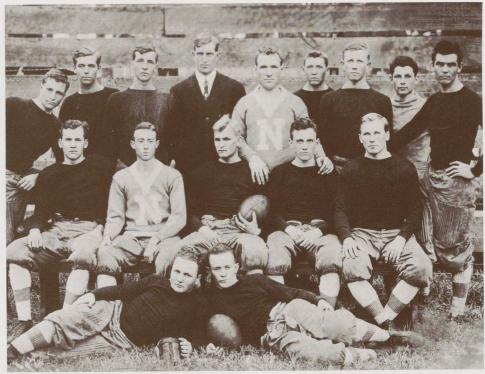
W. S. Langier in *Times Picayune*, 4 March 1928

Left: Oakland Plantation museum.
Below: Oakland Plantation, slave-made well-drilling tools.



For boys, football, baseball, and track are much encouraged among outdoor sports. Contests with some of the strongest universities in the South are held. The aim of this work is not to develop winning teams, but to give methods of developing one's own physical nature; to instruct in the art of training others, and to create right ideals in sport and physical training.

Louisiana State Normal School Catalogue, 1911-1912



Right: Louisiana State Normal football team, 1913 Below: Louisiana State Normal faculty, 1902

George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives



George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives



George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives

There are one hundred bedrooms, sixty of them arranged for two students each, and four rooms for six stu-

dents each, and four rooms for six students each.

The rooms are provided with white iron and brass beds, moss mattresses, metal washstands, bowls and pitchers, chairs, lamps or electric lights, and fire-places or stoves. Students provide their own pillows, blankets, bed linen, mosquito bars, towels and napkins.

There are nine bath rooms, supplied with full-length porcelain-lined tubs, and hot and cold cistern water.

Louisiana State Normal School Catalogue 1904-1905

Left: Mrs. Donaho in her room in the Matron's Building (Bullard Mansion). Below: Graduating class, Spring 1902



George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives

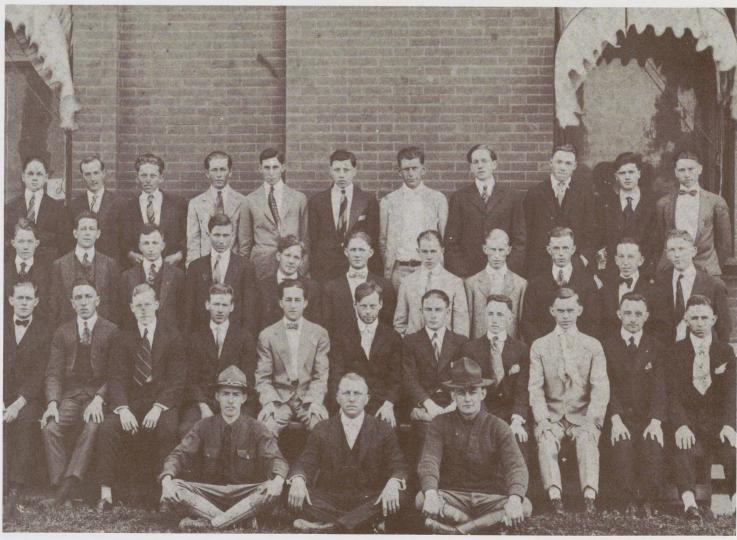
Row 2, 3 of George Poleman The Eric DeBlieut

Dr. Marion Horgrove I.

Below: Some Natchitoches men in World War I. Row I (left to right): Earl DeBlieux, Earl Freeman, unidentified man. Row 2: unidentified man, Eric DeBlieux, Conly Covington, Gordon Peters, Eugene Gilson, Blount Breazeale, George Himel, Roy Tedlie. Row 3: Bill Payne, Ovid Turpin, Andrew Hargis, Hugh Miller, Adolph Sompayrac, Phonsie Sompayrac, Reginald Prudhomme, Curtis Smith, Sterling LeBlanc, Alex Sompayrac, — Ellzy. Row 4: Archie Breazeale, J. C. Keyser, John T. Pharis, Adolphus Albritton, Hampton Waddell, Isadore Gimbert, D. McLean, Guy Cloutier, Wayne Huckaby, Willie Simpkins, Ollie Gimbert.



Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives

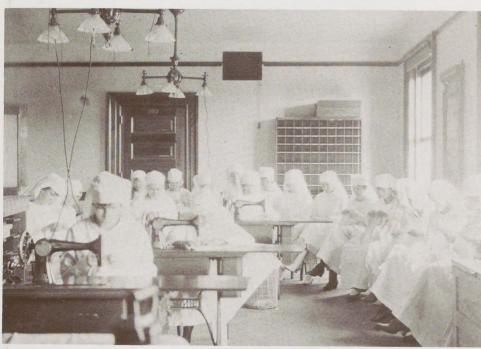


Hargis Collection, NSU Archives

The spirit of her women is the spirit of the highest type of American Womanhood. No other city in Louisiana can boast a more notable list of brilliant minds, or brave, heroic citizens, ready for any test. Natchitoches has long been a center of culture and refinement, and of splendid achievement on the part of her women. So naturally the eyes of the whole State will be turned on you, as those who set the pace for the women of our commonwealth.

When we realize the cause and purpose of this war, we know that it can never end until Imperialism is completely overthrown, and the spirit of all nations and kindreds and tongues, shall soar with our own American eagle and from the earth's remotest bounds will echo and re-echo with multitudinous reverberations, the glorious paean, "I am free. I am free."

Caroline Dormon Collection, NSU Archives



George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives

Left: Women's Red Cross work, Post Office Building, World War I Below: Natchitoches National Guard, World War I



Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives



The aged tree
Sends forth
Small green leaves
To show
Her young heart.
Mary Land, Dreams

 $Melrose\ Collection,\ NSU\ Archives$



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives



Melrose Collection, NSQ Archives



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

The treasure is guarded by a ghostly band, they tell you in all solemnity. Smoke rises from the ground when you thrust your hand down the hole you are digging below the spot where the "Divining rod" circles. Headless horses gallop around. Headless human figures, like smoke-wraiths, holding their ghostly heads in their hands, circle about you, with menacing gestures and eerie sounds. That is the time one of the party must read selected passages from the "devil Book" or the "Sixth and Seventh Books of Moses" lest you come to harm.

Meigs O. Frost, Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

All three photos: slave quarters, Magnolia Plantation

Relics to be seen at Little, or Cedar, Lick at Drake's salt dome: wooden pipe used in making salt (note that the wooden pipes are made to fit together)

On the north side, and pretty near the Natchitoches, there is, as is said, a spring of water very salt, running only four leagues. This spring, as it comes out of the earth, forms a little river, which, during the heats, leaves some salt on its banks. And what may render this more credible is, that the country whence it takes its rise contains a great deal of mineral salt, which discovers itself by several springs of salt water, and by two salt lakes, of which I shall presently speak.

Antoine Simon Le Page Du Pratz, History of Louisiana, 1774

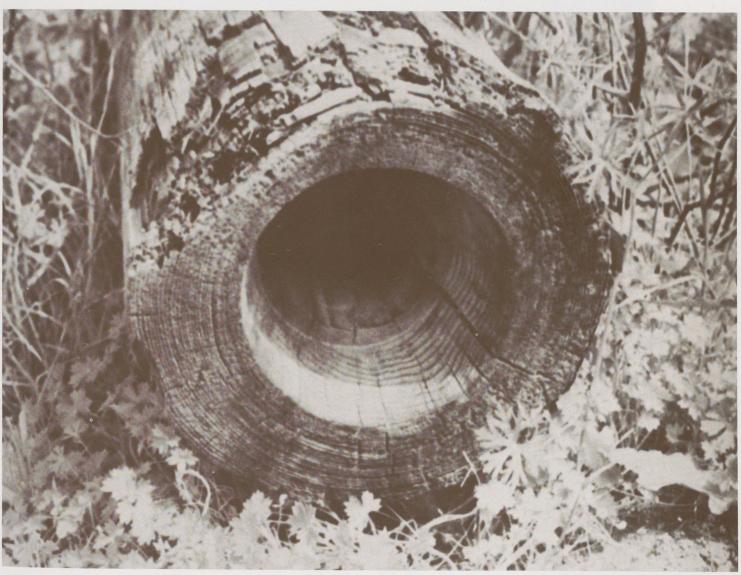


Photo by Everett Baker for Stanley T. Slaydon's "Present Day Evidence of Past Salt-Making Activities on Drake's Salt Dome," 1973

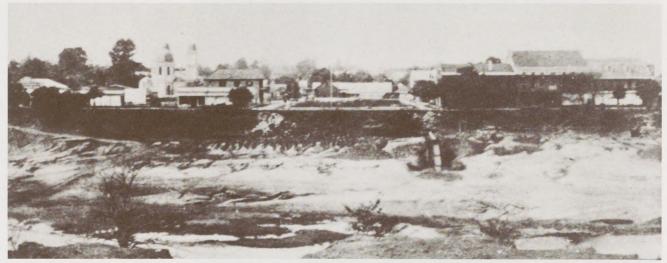


Left: Evaporating kettle Below: Wooden pipe

Everett Baker



Everett Baker



Courtesy Library of Congress

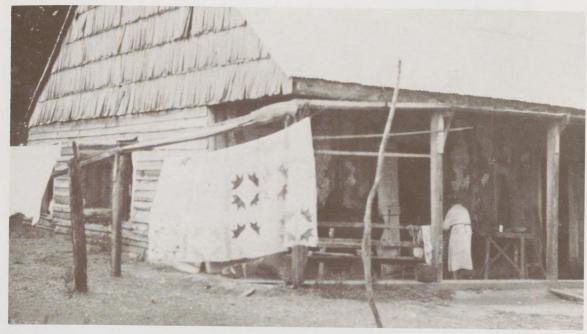


Courtesy Library of Congress

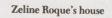
I think Cane River must be the crookedest river in the world. It changes its route every hundred yards. It is a wimpling stream of blue water that bubbles up ceaselessly from a million springs. It is generally low enough for boys to wade across, but sometimes it rises high in its tall banks and then it floats such big boats as the Jesse K. Bell. "Before the war" it was always navigable. It has curious banks — this river that was a great river before the war — high yellow bluffs topped with green grass and beneath these, sloping down with a most gentle yielding terrace after terrace, green and plushy, until the edge slips into the river. To see how charming a place the town is one must cross the river and look at it with its proper perspective. It lies along the bluff and up the hillside, and like any other peaceful town, shows its peaceful spires above the encampments of great trees. They are cottonwood trees and they keep up a silver singing all the while like fountains playing in marble basins. The twin towers of the cathedral, not unlike those of Notre Dame, glow darkly

red above the trees, and nearby is the steep roof and the exquisitely beautiful belfry, with its red stone slender columns and its grass-bearded crown, of the Episcopal church. The town rambles as every picturesque place ought to do. The streets are narrow, showing the old European force of habit strong on its founders, and the houses are fortresses of masonry, built to last forever and a day. There are wonderful old red brick edifices, standing jamb on the street and built Spanish-wise with the threshold level with the street. The lower story will be surmounted by a broad balcony or porch and even this — like a Chester row — may have a brick pavement worn into shallows by the tread of feet that have been dust these fifty years. Occasionally a broken board shows that the original house is of adobe and has been recently planked over.

Catharine Cole, c. 1889, Melrose Collection, NSU Archives



Lyle Saxon photo, NSU Archives





Lyle Saxon photo, NSU Archives

I have known one or two odd specimens of barnyard denizens in the Cane River country. There used to be a fine flock of frizzled chickens at Zeline Roque's . . . Sometimes they would have slightly speckled plumage but mostly they were brown and so ruffed and disorderly that one could easily imagine they had just come off second best in an encounter with an electric fan. It was just a detail that some of these hens and roosters had webbed feet.

François Mignon, Plantation Memo, 1972

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François Mignon, Plantation Memo, 1972

It may appear almost incredible, and yet it is too true, that near seven tenths of Louisiana to the south of the parallel of Natchitoches and Natchez, is either constantly or periodically covered with water. No doubt a considerable proportion of this tract may eventually be redeemed, but not without more labor and expense than is in the power of the present generation to bestow.

Amos Stoddard, Sketches, Historical and Descriptive, of Louisiana, 1812



Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives



Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives



Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives

All photos, these two pages, show flood waters at Cypress, 1908



Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives



Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives

... During this period, the African House was used as a lumber room and general plantation catch-all for cast off gear and discarded house furnishings. In the mid 1950s, however, the African House was given a new lease on life when its heterogeneous contents were cleared out, the lower floor converted into an ante-Bellum museum and the upper floor made presentable as a gallery for paintings.

Francois Mignon, *Plantation Memo*, 1972



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

African House, Melrose

It was upon the store gallery that the black men gathered at night, loafing and "visitin" together; the deserted building, tight barred and dark, was their nightly meeting place; it was their club, their refuge from hot cabins full of squalling black children.

Lyle Saxon, "Cane River"



Lyle Saxon photo, NSU Archives

Melrose Plantation store

A little day is mine 'twixt night and night So short 'tis nearly done —

Kate Chopin, "A little Day"



St. "Dennis" Hotel, located on St. Denis Street behind the Live Oak Hotel

Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives



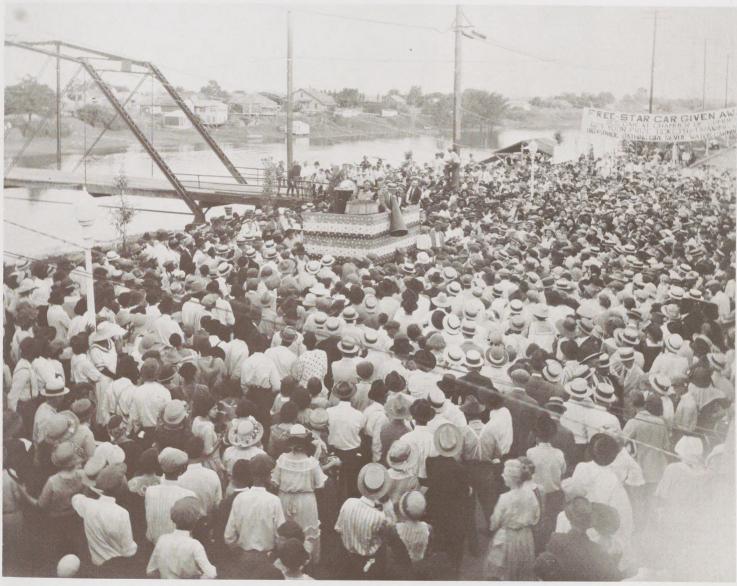
Natchitoches Parish courthouse

Melrose Collection, NSU Archives



Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives

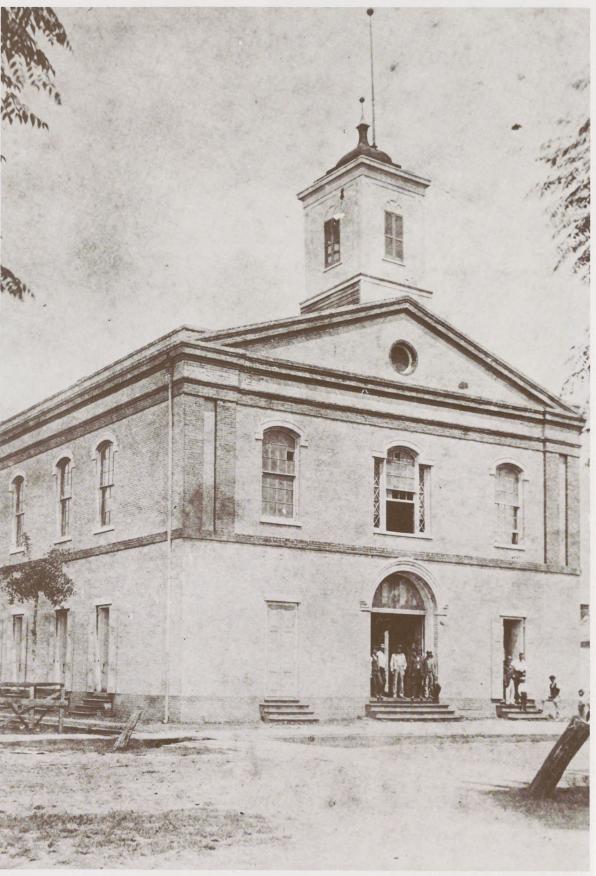
Old courthouse and jail



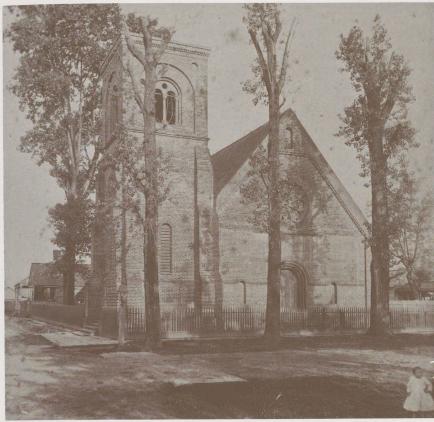
Trades Day crowd on Front Street

Gladys Breazeale Collection, NSU Archives

First Natchitoches Parish courthouse, torn down in 1888. It was located on the northwest corner of Church and Second Streets.



 ${\it Judge James W. Jones Collection, NSU Archives}$



Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives



Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives

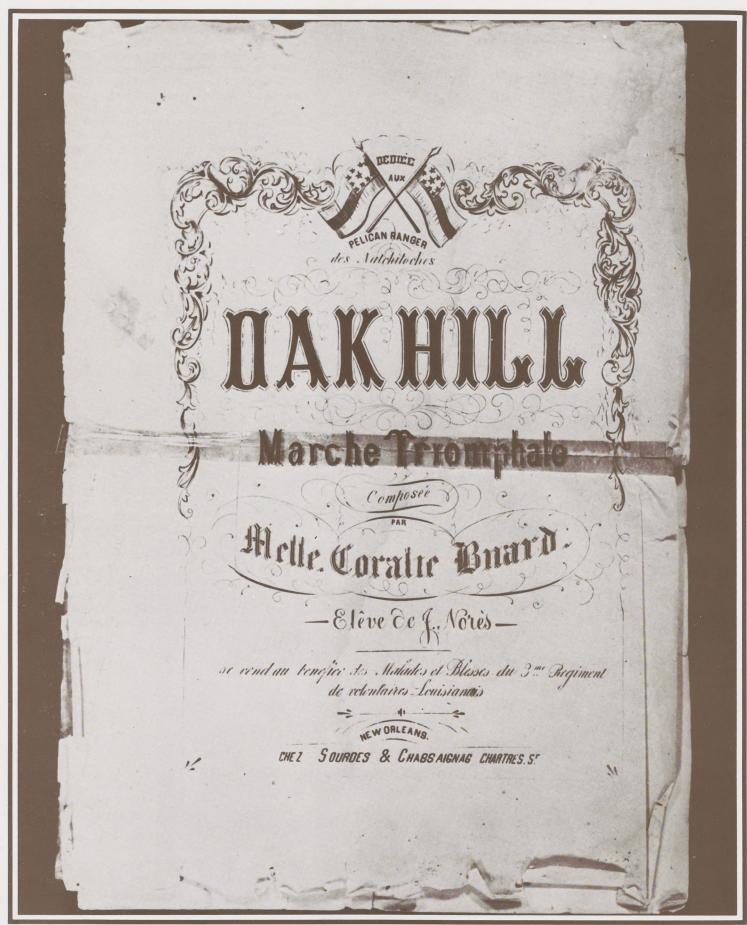
Bishop Polk is here now — an admirable man, I think. I feel some interest in his Church as it is the only Protestant body here. To my surprise I was elected one of the vestrymen at the last election by the congregation. I supposed that only a member could be vestryman. I presume as things go it is an office without duties. If there be such, I know myself too well not to be assured that they will be neglected. Henry Safford, Natchitoches, 27 April 1857. Safford Collection, NSU Archives

Trinity Episcopal Church, 1891

Some time after the creation of the new diocese, the name of the Cathedral was changed from St. Francis to St. Mary. In December, 1854, the year and the month that the dogma of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary was defined, Father P. F. Dicharry, rector of the Cathedral, entered in the registers of the church that he was rector of the "Church of St. Mary of Natchitoches." In 1856, Bishop Martin began the construction of a new Cathedral and it was dedicated under the invocation of the Immaculate Conception.
Roger Baudier, The Catholic Church in

Louisiana, 1939

Church of the Immaculate Conception



Hyams Collection, NSU Archives



Hyams Collection, NSU Archives

Mlle. Coralie Buard vient de composer un délicieux morceau pour piano, ayant pour titre: Marche Triomphale d'Oak Hill. Cette oeuvre musicale admirablement bien conçue nous a été jouée par le professeur J. Norès, qui doit, en vérité, être fier de son èléve. L'harmonie large et puissante de cette marche ou les transitions sont habilement ménagées, la fraicheur du thême musical et l'em-

semble parfait de tout le morceau, nous prouvent une fois de plus le talent de son auteur. La Marche Triomphale d'Oak Hill aura du succès dans les salons de la Nelle-Orléans, sa réputation franchira rapidement les limites de Natchitoches. Natchitoches *Union*, 23 January 1862



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

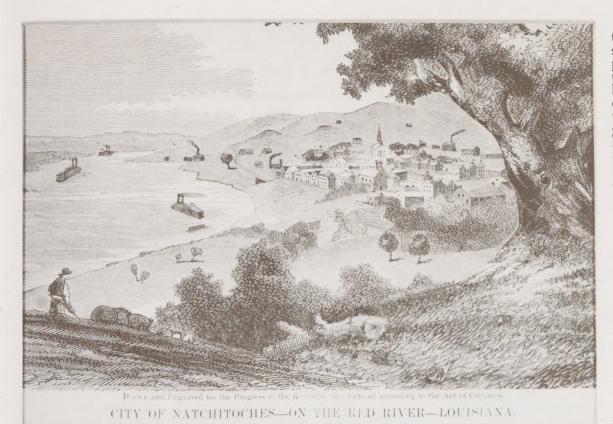


Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

Court was in session; along the narrow streets ox-teams were crawling and creaking, filled with niggers and country people "passing" the time of day; now and then some fine old carriage, drawn by satin bays, would permit him a glimpse of ravishing ladies in gay little flowered bonnets; around the hitching posts on the river bank, where

umbrella-chinas made pools of shade and the flies circled, drunken and sleepy, the planters had left their horses and mules; and bits of blue and orange and red flashed abroad in the streets.

Ada Jack Carver, "Redbone"



The village of Natchitoches will always preserve some importance, particularly as it is the usual thoroughfare over land from the settlements east of the Mississippi to the Mexican dominions. A garrison was always kept here by the French and Spaniards, and the United States still maintain one at the same place.

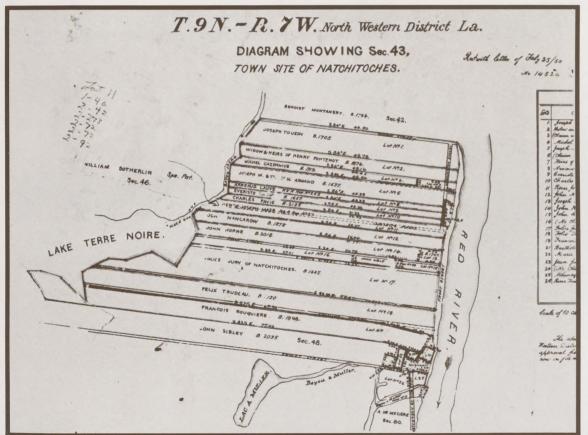
Amos Stoddard.

Amos Stoddard, Sketches, Historical and Descriptive, of Louisiana, 1812

Courtesy Mrs. Dwight Davis

Undated view of Natchitoches

1850 plan of Natchitoches



Marshall H. Carver Collection, NSU Archives

... On spring mornings, the grass along St. Denis Street was shining with the dew, and the birds twittered about their building in the stately elms in front of the old ivy-covered church ... Truf-fles could be found on the old lake bank after a spring shower, and they lent a delicate garnish-ment to chicken. Artichokes raised their prickly heads, and all the old gardens had their long row of feathery asparagus, when you could nick the of feathery asparagus, when you could pick the

tender stalks in the early morning . . . Those were the times of — but I must desist. Just hearing about all those things, many of which, on any kind of scale, anyway, are but memories these days of conservation. But the magic of cuisine artistry lingers around Natchitoches.

Wynonah Breazeale, "Creole Eats,"

The Literary Digest. 28 June 1919



Riverfront, 1947

Melrose Collection, NSU Archives



Mrs. W.T. Williams' sunken garden on Cane River.

 \dots the flower garden, with its graveled walks and trim parterres, where a tangle of color and perfume were holding high revelry this April morning \dots Kate Chopin, $Bayou\ Folk$

134 — CANE RIVER COUNTRY Louisiana

Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

Natchitoches City Hall, which served as the L.R.&N. passenger depot from 1910 to 1923



Courtesy B. A. Cohen

The earth was covered with two inches of snow, as white, as dazzling, as soft as northern snow and a hundred times more beautiful. Snow upon and beneath the moss-draped branches of the forests; snow along the bayou's edges, powdering the low, pointed, thick palmetto growths; white snow and the fields and fields of white cotton bursting from dry bolls. The Natchitoches train sped leisurely through the white, still country, and I longed for some companion to sit beside me who would feel the marvelous and strange beauty of the scene as I did. The earth was covered with two inches of beauty of the scene as I did.

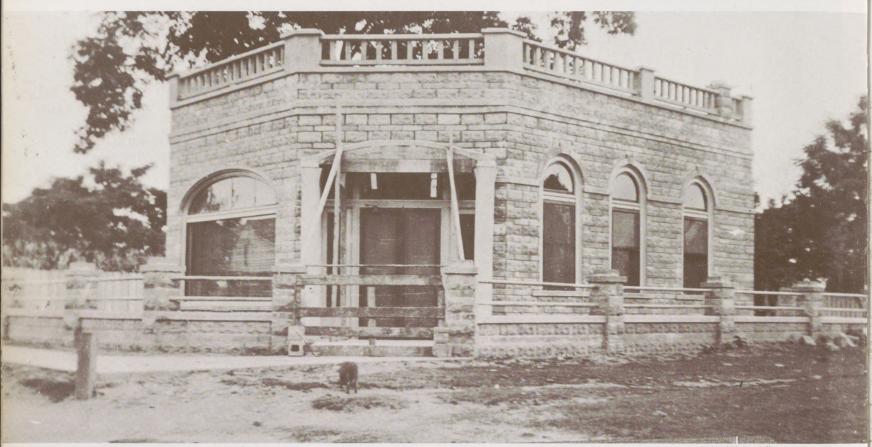
Kate Chopin,

"A December Day in Dixie"



Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives; also, Courtesy Mrs. J. Alphonse Prudhomme

Natchitoches Railroad locomotive at the station near the Normal campus.



Mildred McCoy Collection, NSU Archives

MY NATIVE TOWN (Written by a schoolgirl, Clemence Benoist, 1888)

Cloutierville is my native place, it is situated on the right bank of the Cane River in the parish of Natchitoches. The little village is not very pretty nor is it at all flourishing, still I love the place for it has always been my home. The chief pursuit of the people around Cloutierville is agriculture. Some of the planters own very large plantations, and they cultivate cotton. Every year hundreds of bales of beautiful white cotton is shipped from the banks of Cane River. Our lands are very rich and some day I suppose this country will be in a flourishing condition. We have

but one church in our village and it is a Roman Catholic church. All the people are Creoles except two families. They are Americans and profess the Protestant religion. There is not much trade or commerce carried on in this little place. The climate is very mild and the soil is very fertile. In the spring of the year Cloutierville looks real pretty. Then the flowers are all in bloom, the trees are dressed in green, the little birds sing their gay songs and little old Cloutierville looks pretty and festive.

Melrose Collection, NSU Archives



Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives

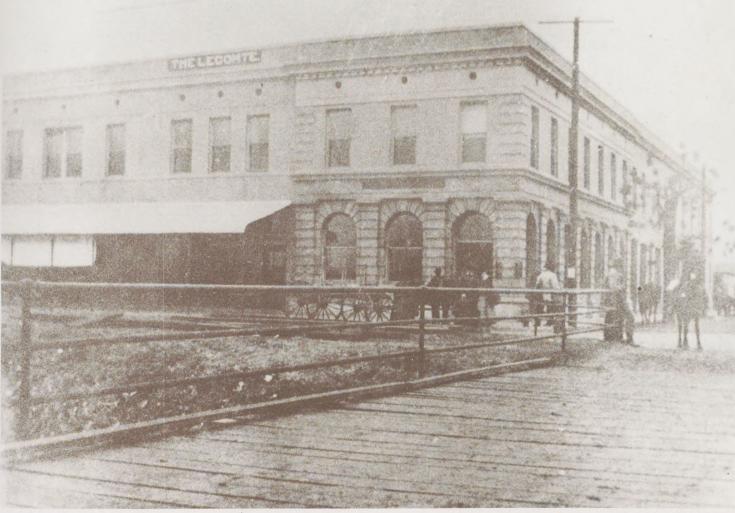
... the large building occupied by the Red River Land Company and the Natchitoches Railroad. This was formerly the residence of Lecomte, so well known through the whole country, and abroad, as the owner of the celebrated racing horse of the same name. In the background loom up the spires of numerous churches for which, and also its schools, Natchitoches is justly noted.

The South Illustrated

The South Illustrated,
June 1887.

From 1847 when Ambroise become
marrie (2) Desiree Sompayrac
this was town house. The had two
children; he, four quis age 6-16.
Bishop Martin came for high
break fast every Sunday, gave
advice to children before their
marriages acc. to Cothelse Brad home
Hughes, her great grand Soughter
They Sonated cost q B whop home

Left: Old Lecomte Building, Southwest corner of Front and Church Streets. Below: Lecomte Building, Southwest corner of Front and Church Streets.



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

When first we gathered in a class, Called forth by the Normal bell, We felt we could almost conquer the earth

If we took for our maxim: "Do Well!"

But as the days went swiftly by
Things were not learned to the letter;
Our monthly slips brought forth
many a sigh —
Each silently vowed to "Do Better!"

Tho' times go on from worse to worse — Each month beats all the rest — We're not complaining of lessons at all — We simply strive to "Do Best!"

Potpourri, 1911



Sketch of Guardia Hall entrance by Velma C.

Hargis Collection, NSU Archives

I tell you now in mornful numbers, Practice teaching's a hideous dream, For we have no time to slumber And things are worse than they seem.

Critic teachers that remind us,

"Lack of 'Subject-matter' is a heinous crime"
So departing we leave behind us
Failures on the sands of time.

Potpourri, 1909



Model School (Lab School) and Guardia Hall

 $George\ Williams on\ Collection,\ NSU\ Archives$



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

Louisiana State Normal School
Graduating Class, 1892
Back row (left to right): Maggie McBride, Miss Gregg, Mr. Ling (teacher), Lisa Payne, Kate Lea Trichel, Bessie Harwell. Middle row: Laura Tauzin, Bessie McKitrick, Mamie Cross, Mathilde Greneaux, Maggie Cade. Front row: Emma Quimby, Cammie Garrett, Lizzie Barrett, Effie Dalzell, Mollie Kearney



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

Normal Students 1890

- 1. May Smith (Sanders)
 2. Mary Cross
 3. Mattie Hyde
 4. Anna Hill

- 5. Annie Burris

- 5. Annie Burris
 6. Annie Brandon
 7. Sallie Spencer
 8. Celeste Wales
 9. Lessie Bonham
 10. Maggie Ezell
 11. Elodie Heblouin
 12. Sallie Firmiss
 13. Lulu Weiland
 14. Mary Belle Lane
 15. Hugh D. McLaurin
 16. Edna Montgomery 16. Edna Montgomery

- 17. May Stidham
 18. Emma Dawkins
 19. Louise Honeycutt
 20. Addie Butler
 21. Bessie Munday
 22. Ida Milling
 23. Lizzie Alexander
 24. Cammie Garrett
 25. Emma Dollerhyde
 26. Mary Washington
 27. Julie Dale
 28. Emma Oswalt
 29. Lizzie Barrett
 30. Amelia Gaulden
 31. Zoe Garig
 32. Alma Mausur
 33. Stella Schorten



 ${\it Giles~W.~Mill spaugh, fr., Collection, NSU~Archives}$

Children and teacher. Standing (left to right): Robert Hollingsworth, Louise Gallion, Lizzie Bloodworth, Abe Bath. Sitting: Bessie Pierson, Miss May Huey (teacher), Lee Walmsley. On floor: Ann Kearney, () Levy, Ethel Bullard, (). Two boys: Milton Trichel, Joseph Bath



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

Antebellum convent school Forst building used by Sacred Heart Order (on east part of profity Jacing Touline St., Then by St., Joseph's Leminary (after using Rectory building propriey, Then, by Sisters of Durine Providence for St. Mary academy. all three buildings were used by Rem. I attended Just grade age 4 Jive here anotate has arblesson here and Sr. Joseph. Organd dormitary had been on third floor. This is the rear or north Socade, Ir Galmer tought Frend law tronk oree, page 148



Clem P. Binnings, "Natchitoches," Louisiana Collection, Watson Library, NSU

Stephens house (St. Clair plantation house)



Clem P. Binnings, "Natchitoches," Louisiana Collection, Watson Library, NSU

Dr. Joe Slephens said that thes was designed after the architecture of willow Plantalion owned by the friend of his grandfatter A.h. Dethieux. except willow von work. Site of Williams Que +St. Clair was bridge.



Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives



Courtesy Mrs. J. Alphonse Prudhomme

Opening of the Bermuda, La., bridge



St. Denis tree, 1927
The St. Denis tree stands near the center of the American grave-yard in the southern part of Natchitoches; on the crest of the hill just as it begins to slope toward the Cane Lake. There it has stood according to tradition, where St. Denis planted it more than 100 years ago. This indeed we do not know, and to my mind is obvious, but that it has stood guard over the dead for many years and that its roots have gone deep into the earth and taken up the substance of the bodies of those that sleep about it, and that the leaves and branches that we see waving so gracefully in the breezes, are a part of the people that once walked upon the banks of the lakes and admired other trees as we do this one, is utmost in my mind.

A. Babb, "My Sketch Book"

A. Babb, "My Sketch Book"



The Normal columns

Gladys Breazeale Collection, NSU Archives



The first St. Mary's Academy, date undetermined Front week of building on page 143



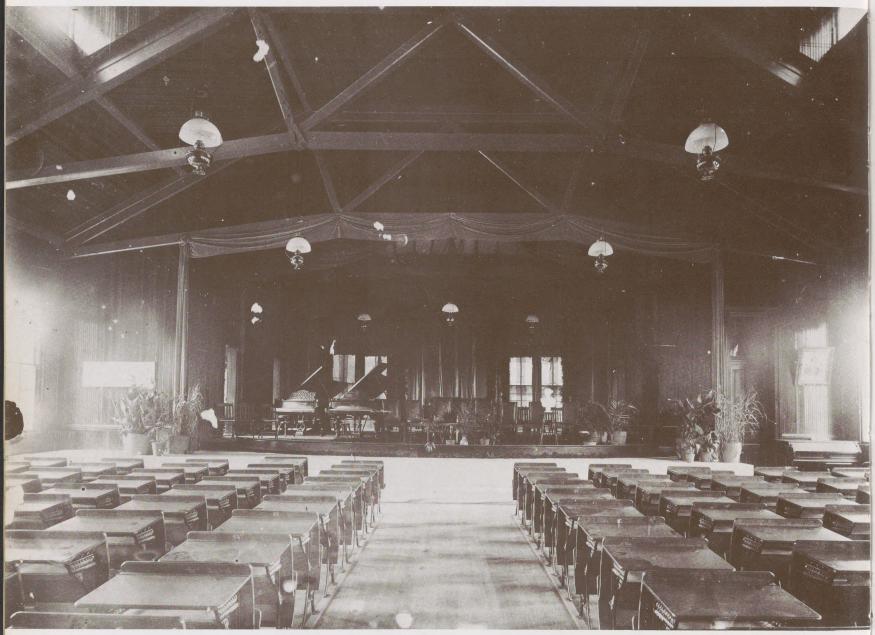
Courtesy Mrs. C. C. Dethloff

This book was used during the Just session of the Natchitodes Och Colony 1921 when Mr. Jordan, owner, took student to paintable sites toward the north of Cone River See Scrapbook No. I

Two views of the school boat Pearl



Courtesy Mrs. J. C. Perot



George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives

Boyd Hall is a large frame building erected in 1895, under the administration of Col. Thos. D. Boyd. During the summer of 1912 the building was moved to a position near the power house and parallel to the main building, the change having been made to afford a proper location for the new practice school building.
Boyd Hall is now used exclusively for academic purposes. On

the first floor are found the home economics department, the chemistry classroom and laboratory, classrooms for the department of rural training, and several offices. The second floor contains a large auditorium, now used as a gymnasium, and the biological classroom and laboratory. On the third floor are found the physics classroom and laboratory.

Louisiana State Normal College catalog, 1921



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

The classes are held in old school houses and churches about the parish. It brings and churches about the parish. It brings tears to ones eyes to go into a class room and see the pupils, young and old, struggling to get that which should have been their right in youth. The men work in the field all day and go home and clean up and walk for miles to the school and struggle for two or three hours by lamp light, trying to learn to read and write. Some of them are so tired that they fall asleep over their books. When people are that anxious to learn they certainly should not be denied the chance.

Mildred Wells, Parish

Mildred Wells, Parish Director of Relief, 1930s



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

Emergency Relief Administration, adult education classes, 1934

Teachers of Natchitoches Parish, December 1913, at a teachers' convention, Natchitoches Post Office.



Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives

Group at Clear Lake, Natchitoches Parish, about 1904. Boys (left to right) Henry Lattier, unidentified person. Girls (left to right) Addie Rachal, Chloe Lattier, Ida Lattier, Emma Gallien



Courtesy Mrs. Marie Stroud



George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives

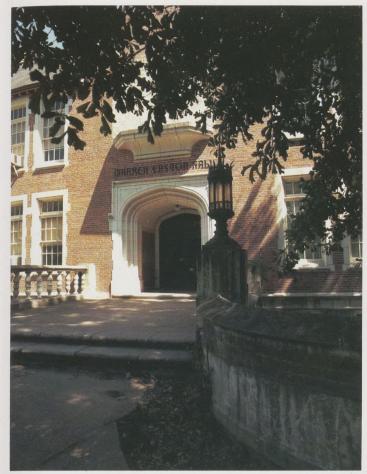
April 5th, 1917
My dear Sir; —
I regret very much to have to send Miss Lizzie home. I find that on a recent occasion when I was called to Baton Rouge on business she and another girl went out auto riding with two men from town. This was a violation of one of our most rigid rules. It is a was a violation of one of our most rigid rules. It is a lapse of good conduct that we cannot tolerate in a big institution where more than 500 girls live.

I feel that I am doing the best thing that I can for Miss Lizzie by returning her to her home where her parents can look after her with more care, attention and solicitude than is possible in large boarding school.

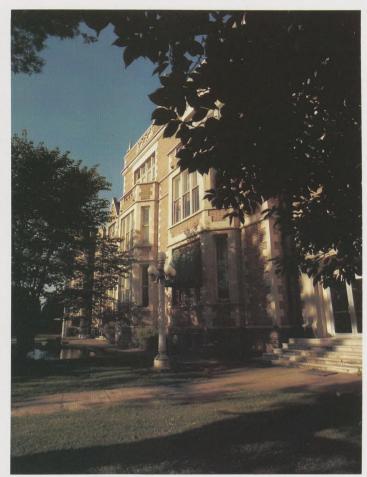
Miss Lizzie will leave from Natchitoches at 8 o'clock Friday morning . . . Yours very truly,

V. L. Roy

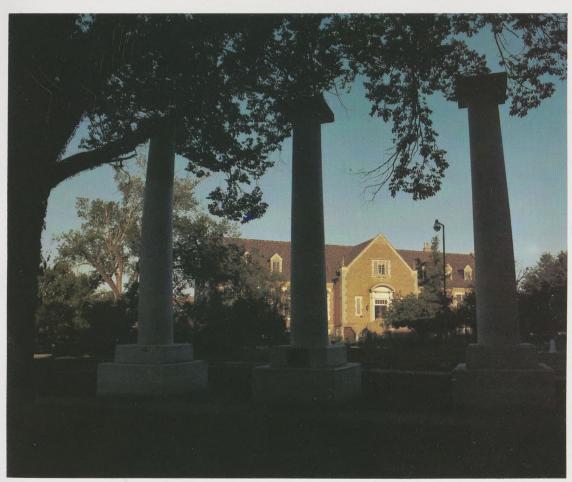
[University Archives, NSU]



Courtesy Don Sepulvado



Courtesy Don Supulvado



Courtesy Don Supulvado

Above left: Warren Easton Hall; above right: Caldwell Hall; left: "the columns" and old Russell Library, all on the campus at Northwestern State University.

Right: modern Watson Library, Northwestern State University. Below: sundial in the old Northwestern quadrangle.



Courtesy Don Sepulvado

Courtesy Don Sepulvado



 $Courtesy\ The\ Service\ League\ of\ Natchitoches,\ Inc.\ @{\it Cane}\ River\ Cuisine\ 1974;\ photo\ by\ John\ C.\ Guillet$

On the porch at the H. C. Taylor home.



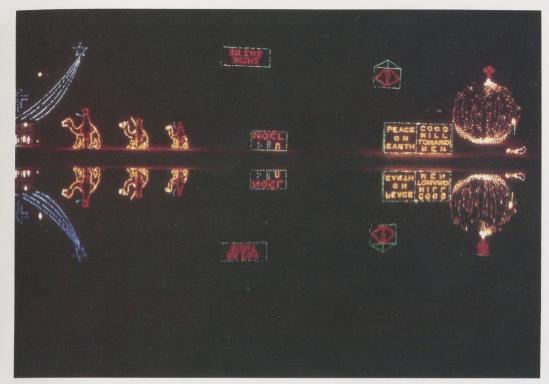
Courtesy Robert Allen



Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson

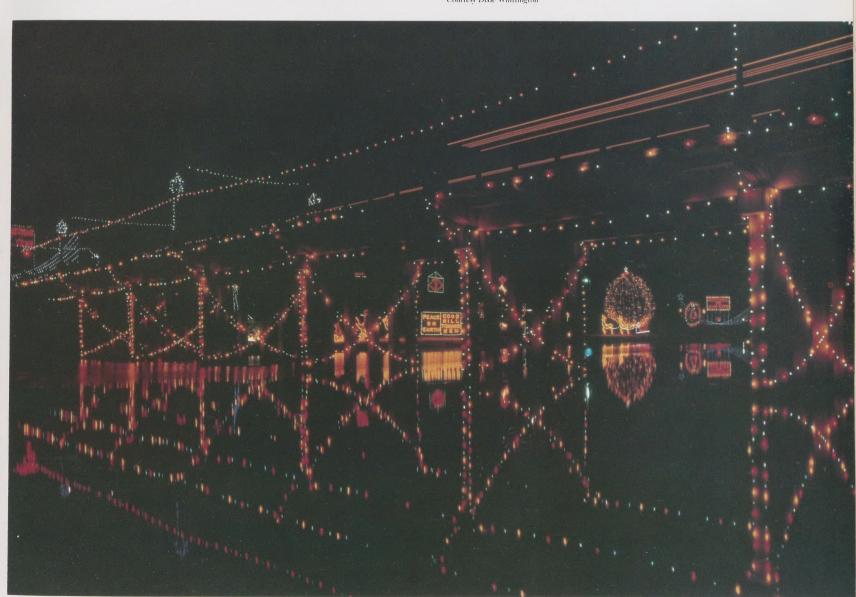


Courtesy Dixie Whittington



The Christmas season in Natchitoches — Opposite page, top left: Santa on window of NSU Student Union; a burst of fireworks is next to Santa, and Front Street under Christmas lights are below him. At left are the three wise men and signs in lights on Cane River. Below, the Church Street bridge Christmas lights are reflected in Cane River.

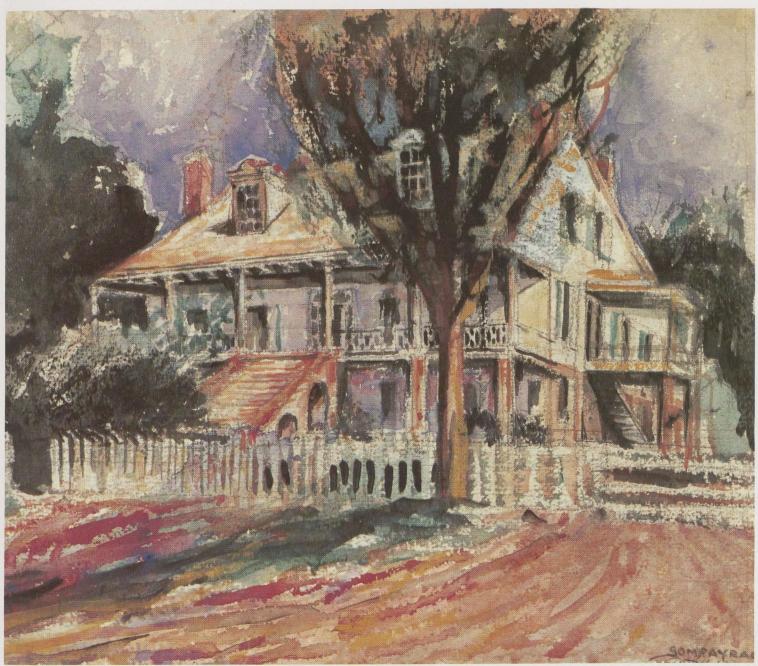
Courtesy Dixie Whittington



Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson



Courtesy B. A. Cohen

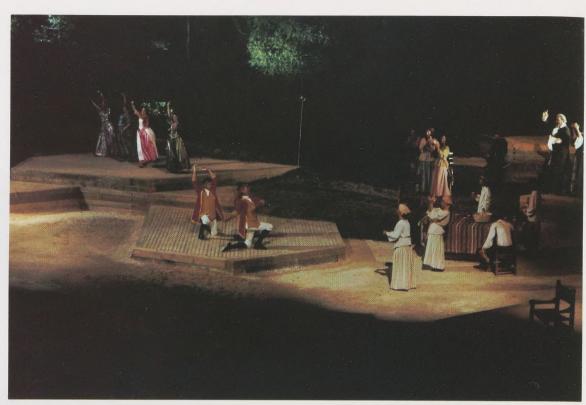


When 9 sport most of my childhood.

Offices on ground floor for Plantation

Eron wale from France.

Courtesy Irma Sompayrac Willard

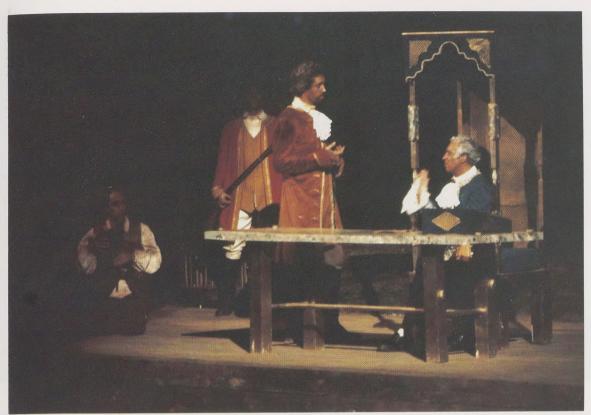


Scenes on these two pages are of stage action in "Louisiana Cavalier", an amphitheatre production at Grand Ecore by the Louisiana Outdoor Drama Association (LODA).

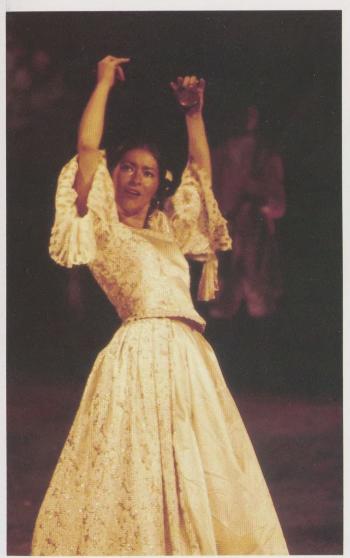
Courtesy Louisiana Outdoor Drama Association (LODA)



 $Courtesy\ Louisiana\ Outdoor\ Drama\ Association\ (LODA)$



 $Courtesy\ Louisiana\ Outdoor\ Drama\ Association\ (LODA)$



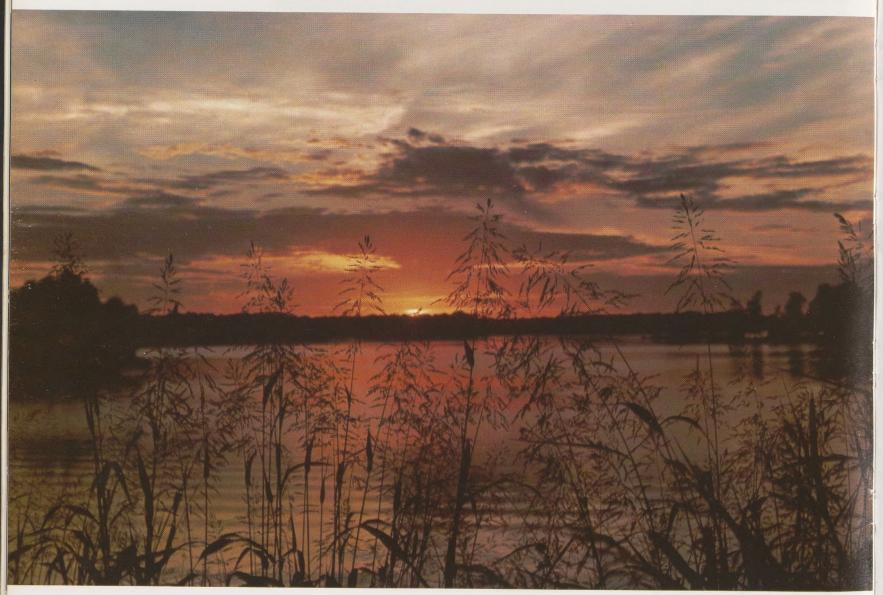
 $Courtesy\ Louisiana\ Outdoor\ Dance\ Association\ (LODA)$



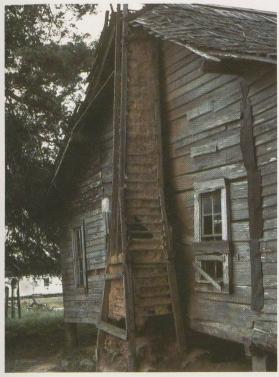
Courtesy Louisiana Outdoor Drama Association (LODA)



Courtesy Gayla Adams-Miller



Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson



Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson

Opposite page, top: a sunrise across Cane River; below: a sunset on Sibley Lake. Left: remnants of a bousillage chimney. Below: a house of bousillage construction.



Courtesy Adrian's Photography



Courtesy B. A. Cohen

The George L. Celles house.



Courtesy B. A. Cohen

The Armelia Rachal house, Melrose.

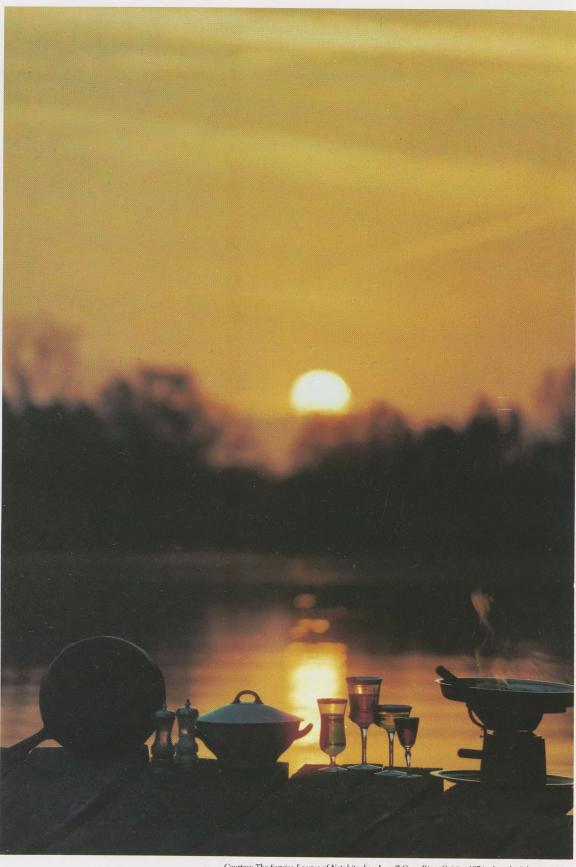


Courtesy Adrian's Photography

The John Taylor house.

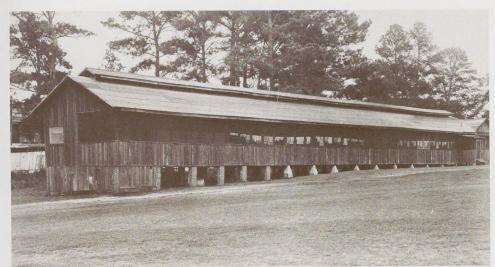


Courtesy B. A. Cohen



 $Courtesy\ The\ Service\ League\ of\ Natchitoches, Inc., @\ Cane\ River\ Cuisine\ 1974;\ photo\ by\ John\ C.\ Guillet.$

Girls Dormitory



A. A. Fredericks Collection, NSU Archives



NSU Archives

June 15, 1925 Dear Mr. Roy: We are ready to conduct the experiment with Coca Cola . . .

Crystal Ice & Bottling Co.

June 16, 1925
Dear Mrs. Hereford: The Coca Cola people have been worrying me for about 12 years because I bar Coca Cola from the campus. Recently, they sent their chemist from St. Louis to convince me that Coca Cola is not half as harmful as coffee drunk in moderation. However, I agreed with Mr. Cook to make a test. Our plan is to furnish one of the dormitories with a few cases of pop after study hours and watch the effects. Please let me know what you think of this plan.
V. L. Roy

June 27, 1925
My Dear Mr. Roy: It is needless to say, we are quite gratified at the results of the Coca Cola test conducted in Cottage Three last Wednesday Evening . . .

V. E. Cook

Partiling Co.

Crystal Ice & Bottling Co.

Two views of "Rose Lawn", the J. H. Williams house.

I know a garden, tho the hands
That tended it are gone,
The sweet, old-fashioned flowers that
Once flourished there, live on;
Still daffodils and crocus star
The cedar's deepest shade,
And hyacinths remember where
The winding paths were laid.

Ah, loved ones gone! My heart is like
A garden long bereft,
Where only sturdy, long-lived things
(The sweetest too) are left,
For thoughts of you, like daffodils,
Still light my deepest gloom.
And down the paths of memory
Are hyacinths in bloom.

Lillian Hall Trichel, Dormon Collection, NSU Archives



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives



Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives

Immediately after his consecration, Bishop Martin set to work. He had before him a population of 25,000 souls scattered over an area of 22,000 square miles. His diocese extended from the 31st degree of latitude north to the Arkansas state line and from the Sabine River to the Mississippi River. In this vast territory, he had four priests and seven churches . . .

Roger Baudier, The Catholic Church in Louisiana, 1939

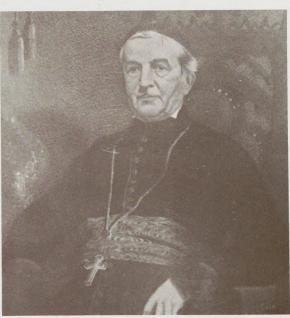


Left: Catholic rectory, Natchitoches [Historic District]
Below left: the bishop's house [Historic District] Below right: Bishop Martin

Courtesy B. A. Cohen



Courtesy B. A. Cohen



Courtesy B. A. Cohen

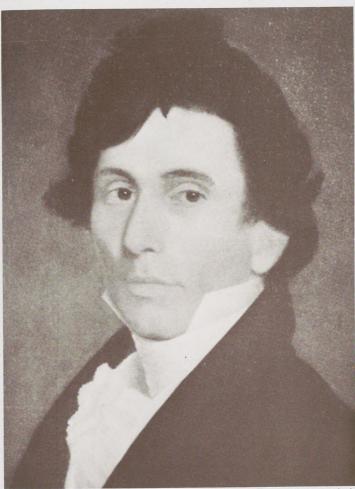


Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives

About four hundred miles from the mouth of the Red River, is found, as one goes upstream, the settlement of Natchitoches. It counts twelve or thirteen hundred inhabitants. They raise profitably cotton, maize, rice, and tobacco. The products of that place pass as the best of North America. Also the king of Spain bought of all the proprietors at a suitable price, but he has been cheated so often, that he has ceased to buy there for several years. Consequently agriculture there has almost

entirely ceased. Besides those products, a large part of the inhabitants trade with the Indian nations surrounding them. The peltries resulting from the trade are very inferior in quality to those of the northern provinces. Through that small settlement pass the merchants or adventurers who engage in contraband trade in Mexico. Spain keeps a garrison of sixty men there under command of a captain.
Perrin Du Lac, Voyage, 1805

Mrs. Josephine Flame Grunewald bold me she was married in the Rouse was soon at Routen Plantaleon house (Richardsons) Reforméer Mrs. Blanche Faugen Greneaux sorts she hard here went horselock ouding from here each day. Ellsworth Woodward & Mrs. W. vesiter here prior to 1920



Courtesy Don Sepulvado

James Ryder Randall, the author of "Maryland! My Maryland!" wrote the following dirge upon learning of the death of Placide Bossier, a college friend at Georgetown University. Placide Bossier, private, Company G, Third Regiment (Pelican Rangers), Louisiana Infantry, was killed in action, August 10, 1861, at the battle of Oak Hill, Mo.

Ah, friend! in the tender college time No evil deed could stain thee, And now, 'mid the combat's iron chime In purity they've slain thee. Sans peur et sans reproche to live, Sans peur et sans reproche we give Thy epitaph when dying.

Hyams Collection, NSU Archives



Keator house, Bermuda, La., 1903

Courtesy Mrs. J. Alphonse Prudhomme



Left to right: J. T. Keator, M.D.; Cecile Prudhomme; Kitten (Kate Keator); Emile Prudhomme; Mae (Mary Keator); Rose M. Keator; J. E. Keator, M.D.; P. Emanuel Prudhomme holding Meda Keator

Courtesy Mrs. J. Alphonse Prudhomme



Courtesy Mrs. Alexander Andrews

Every day gentle showers watered the fields. The cotton grew tall and green; banana trees unfurled their large translucent leaves in the garden before the door, and the dark polished leaves of the magnolia glittered like metal. There were singing birds in each tree and the air was filled with the droning of bees and the shrilling of locusts. Hot summer, old hot summer had

Lyle Saxon, Children of Strangers



Two views of the Russell house, formerly standing on Second Street

Thes was an original Walmsley house (Hugh Walmsley) at ta fuyette St. Russells were owners of Grand Econo Bluff frofity Kept it alows expense for beautification.



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

The morning of February 22nd [1927] was a pretty, bright day, more like April than February. I had made my usual round on the job, and resolved to take a stroll . . . I turned North on Front St. I was looking at the quaint old building with its window blinds and comparing it with the one next to it. Just then a big car passed and turned in the driveway ahead of me; I was approaching Ex Senator Breazeale's home; a lady stepped out of the car and walked back meeting me; it was Miss Marie Breazeale. She said that she and Mrs. Bath were going in about an hour to plant some trees on the new sanitarium grounds and an hour to plant some trees on the new sanitarium grounds and invited me to go with them.
A. Babb, "Sketch Book"

Baptiste passed through lanes that were dense with Cherokee roses, on down the road through the frenzied bloom of blackeyed Susan and bitterweed. And where the sinuous river begins to work its magic he saw the town, already asleep with summer. On the edge of the commons the breath of sweet-olive rushed at

his lips like a kiss; and it is here that the road grows into a street, with quaint little sociable houses that squat on the sidewalk like children.

Ada Carver, "Redbone"



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

Tucker House, originally called St. Amant house where parish library now stands Lt. Grant visited here - Portus were ad



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

After passing this [River Cane] settlement ... the river divides again, forming unother island of about thirty miles in length, and from two to four in breadth, called the *Isle Brevel*, after a reputable old man now living in it, who first settled it. This island is sub-divided by a bayou that communicates from one river to the other, called also Bayou Brevel. The middle

division of the river, is called *Little* river, and it is thickly settled, and is the boat channel; the westward division of the river is called False river, is navigable, but not settled, the banks are too low; it passes through a lake called Lac Occassa. John Sibley, Natchitoches, 10th April 1805, in *Travels in Interior America*, 1807



Melrose Collection, NSU Archiv

Alex. P. Breda, Dr. Medecin, Gradué à l'Université de la Louisane Setant Associé, pour la pratique de la Médecine, avec le Dr. BREDA offre ses services aux habitants de Natchitoches et des environs.

Résidence chez de Dr. P. Breda.

April 1861, Natchitoches newspaper clipping

Iron work ste, & was told are in old cestern under faved street. The banisties from this home were put on the home of de pean Emile Brida. Hen his daughter, deis Mariona Breda, clied, the Vanisties were laught by Mrs. Rowena Buda Relgard, twin to Vhenona. They are now on the have of Rowena Buda Belgardis Laughter, eller Alice Her at Pt 1 1/3 at 1180 Alexandria, La. CANE RIVER COUNTRY Louisiana — 181

The undersigned Mail Contractors, on the route from Shreveport to Natchitoches have so arranged the stands on the route that the Coaches will hereafter meet in Mansfield. The arrivals and Departures are permanently arranged as follows:

Arrivals		Departures	
Mondays,	5 P.M.	Tuesdays,	3 A.M.
Thursdays,	do.	Fridays,	do.
Saturdays,	do.	Sundays,	do.

They have succeeded in forming a connection with the line through to the mouth of Red River. Persons traveling on this route will meet with no delay. The time required in making a trip from Shreveport to the mouth of Red River will be four days lying over one night at Mansfield. For comfort and speed, this line is unsurpassed by any in the Western States. Good accommodations all the way through. The stand in Mansfield is at the De Soto Hotel. The Proprietor of which (Joel A. Carrell,) is authorized to act as our way agent at this place. Reesides, Smead, & Co.

Clipping from *DeSoto Columbia* Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

August the 16th 1856



Courtesy B. A. Cohen



Courtesy B. A. Cohen



Top: Exchange Bank Center: City Bank Right: Peoples Band

Courtesy B. A. Cohen



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

Old François Roubieu homestead was settled and surveyed in 1808 by François Roubieu a native of Bordeaux, France. My grandmother Ausite Roubieu moved to her residence on Amulet St. in the town of Natchitoches after my grandfather's death. I moved on Cane river to the old François Roubieu Homestead in 1877 and I named the plantation." The post office was Pecan P.O. and I was Postmaster.

was Pecan I.C.
Postmaster.
Thos. J. Flanner,
1930, Melrose Collection, NSU
Archives

Us. Josephue F. Grandwald (of grunewald Hotel in NO) was born here See p. marries in Wells House



Courtesy B. A. Cohen

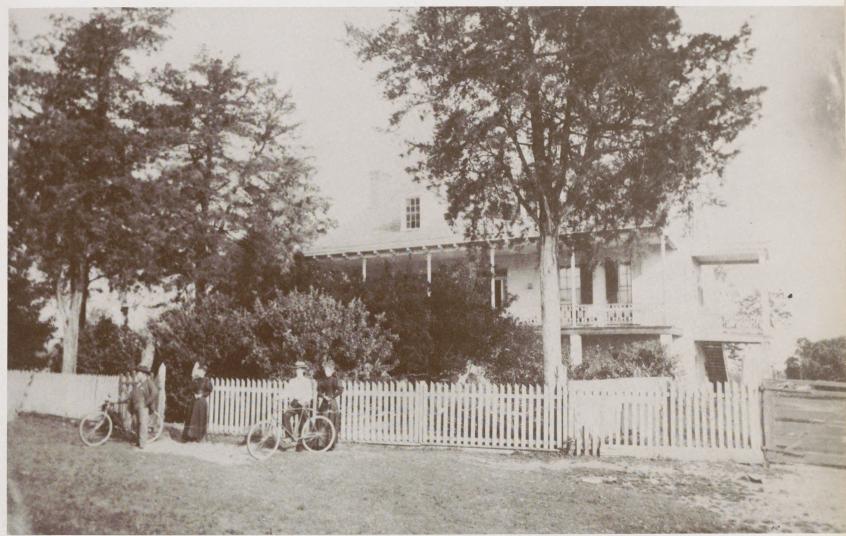


Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

A dozen rods or more from the Red River bank stood the dwelling house, and nowhere upon the plantation had time touched so sadly as here. The steep, black, moss-covered roof sat like an extinguisher above the eight large rooms that it covered, and had come to do its office so poorly that no more than half of these were habitable when the rain fell. Perhaps the live

oaks made too thick and close a shelter about it. The verandas were long and broad and inviting; but it was well to know that the brick pillar was crumbling away under one corner, that the railing was insecure at another, and that still another had long ago been condemned as unsafe.

Kate Chopin, Bayou Folk



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

Willow Plantation, near Grand Ecore. Built by Alexandre Louis DeBlieux who came over to Louisiana with his father, from Provence, France. Built prior to the Civil War. After being disabled in the war, Pierre Lestan Prud'homme, author of

the Young Man's Dairy of 1850-1853, spent his last days here with his sister, Mrs. E. Valery DeBlieux and her family.
Irma Sompayrac Willard

This house on the corner of Washington Avenue and Pavie Street is one of the older landmarks of the City and has a most interesting history. It is now [1938] about one hundred and thirty-two years old and the four large magnolia trees in front of it are probably one hundred years of age. The building is three stories high, the lower and upper stories having a ceiling height of eight feet and the middle story a little over thirteen. The lower floor is brick and the sills, beams, studding and rafters of the building are of hand-hewn cypress. Some of the pieces are forty feet long. The middle story is plastered. There are two large sundried brick chimneys with open fireplaces on the first and second stories.

Charles C. Carroll, "The Old Lauve House"

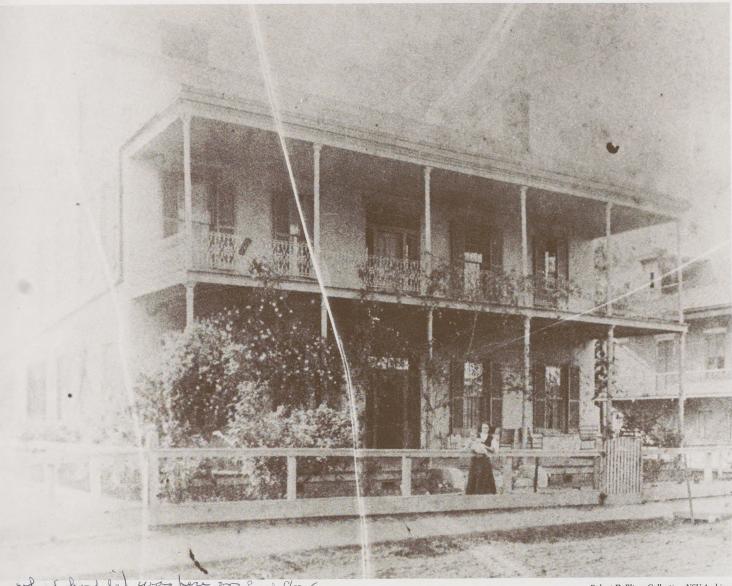


Melrose Collection, NSU Archives



Two views of the Carroll Lauve house known as The Magnolias [Historic District]

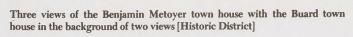
Courtesy B. A. Cohen



Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives





Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

Two views of Laureate House, also known as the Voiers, Chaplain, and Dunckleman house [Historic District]



Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

Levy house [Historic District]



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

Pledges made in the flush of joy, and in the full tide of prosperity, when the heart is buoyant with hope, may be forgotten or overlooked, but when the clouds and storms of adversity are upon us, and the heart swells with grief and sorrow, the pledges uttered in such a moment are irrevocably fixed, and death alone can prevent their fulfilment.

From the reply of Captain William M. Levy, 1861, upon the occasion of the presentation of the flag to the Lecomte Guards, Natchitoches.

First floor was boach of fice bullow



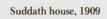
Melrose Collection, NSU Archives



Courtesy B. A. Cohen



Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives





Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archive

The discipline of the Normal Boarding Club is in the hands of the President of the institution and the matron in charge of the dormitories; and every proper care is exercised in supervising and directing the young men and women of the school. The rules necessary to govern so large a body of young people are more stringent than those found in the home. Accordingly,

no student is permitted to spend the night away from the dormitories; visiting in town requires a special permit; and when students go out on excursions to the woods, they are accompanied by members of the faculty.

State Normal School Catalog, 1914-1915



East Hall, the New Dormitory, 1890s

Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives

Studies I love, Critique I love, Plans I love, I say; Teaching I love with all my heart, And boys I cast away. Potpourri, 1911

The Model School includes eight grades The Model School includes eight grades and high school, ten rooms, with thirty-five pupils to each room. It aims to exemplify the entire course of study prescribed for the public schools of Louisiana, and to illustrate the best teaching under the best conditions.

For two half-hour periods each day, the lessons are given by students in the fourth year of

the normal course; these lessons are prepared the normal course; these lessons are prepared and given under direction and supervision of the training teacher and the grade teachers, and no lesson can be given before it has been examined and approved by them.

Louisiana State Normal School Catalog, 1907-1908



George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives

Nothing to get but lessons, Nowhere to go but to school; Nothing to see but girls, Nothing to keep but the rule.

Nothing to drink but water, Nothing to eat but food; Nothing to feel but homesickness, Nothing to be but good.

Nothing to sing but choruses, Nothing to teach but kids; Nothing to do but study -Nothing but what's been did.

Nothing is ever different, And so our club life goes; Nothing at all but a Normal girl Can understand these woes.

Potpourri, 1911

The Model School



Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives



On Second floor in early
1900's (eclipse of appearation
for old shoutures) my mother
used to take me her to the
dees maker on 2nd floor.
In center of 12t floor was
of a cavage way with stours
a little dog used to make
it an act of coverage to get
sow dosses.

Robert DeBlieux Collection, NSU Archives



Harriet Beecher Stowe Collection, NSU Archives

It was a wild, forsaken road, now winding through dreary pine barrens, where the wind whispered mournfully, and now over log causeways, through long cypress swamps, the doleful trees rising out of the slimy, spongy ground, hung with long wreaths of funeral black moss, while ever and anon the loath-some form of the moccasin snake might be seen sliding among broken stumps and shattered branches that lay here and there, rotting in the water.

The place had that ragged, forlorn appearance, which is always produced by the evidence that the care of the former

owner has been left to go to utter decay.

What was once a smooth-shaven lawn before the house, dotted here and there with ornamental shrubs, was now covered with frowsy tangled grass, with horseposts set up, here and there, in it, where the turf was stamped away, and the ground littered with broken pails, cobs of corn, and other slovenly

remains. Here and there a mildewed jessamine or honeysuckle hung raggedly from some ornamental support, which had been pushed to one side by being used as a horse-post. What once was a large garden was now all grown over with weeds, through which, here and there, some solitary exotic reared its forsaken head. What had been a conservatory had now no window shades, and on the mouldering shelves stood some dry, forsaken flower pots, with sticks in them, whose dried leaves showed they had once been plants.

they had once been plants.

The wagon rolled up a weedy gravel walk, under a noble avenue of China trees, whose graceful forms and ever springing foliage seemed to be the only things there that neglect could not daunt or alter — like noble spirits, so deeply rooted in goodness, as to flourish and grow stronger amid discouragement and

decay.

Harriet Beecher Stowe, Uncle Tom's Cabin



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

The Marco house was built by Nicola Gratia in the 1820s or 1830s. "The property owned by Mr. Givanovich embraces very much more than the old Nicola Gratia property. I find of record a sale made by Nicola Gratia to Marco Givanovich on May 29, 1860, comprising what was known as the Home Place situated on Cane River containing in the aggregate 5740 acres together with some forty or fifty slaves and a large number of mules and

farming implements, etc. The sale was on credit terms and as you will note it was made just prior to the beginning of the Civil War. I find that after the war some time in '68 the notes given for the purchase price were duly cancelled as having been paid by Mr. Marco Givanovich."

Phanor Breazeale to Mrs. Cammie Henry

 ${\bf Prudhomme\text{-}Rouquier\ house\ (The\ Service\ League\ of\ Natichitoches\ house)\ [Historic\ District]}$





Courtesy B A Coho



e only photograph knows of this house (from which 5 ketch was mode) is one of took for a Juli newspater fage of old houses in Natchitodes. May 1931. The furfose was to focus attention and interest in radaming externor features. Fatil have ble negatives and a yellowed newspake page.



District Judges, 1892 to the present:

1892-1896	James Andrews	1930-1940	James W. Jones Jr.	
1895-1896	A. V. Coco	1940-1942	special judges	
1896-1899	E. G. Hunter	1942-1966	Laurie Paul Stephens	
1898-1899	E. North Cullom Jr.	1960-1972	Julian E. Bailes	
1899-1900	A. J. Lafargue	1966-present	Richard B. Williams	
1900-1907	C. V. Porter	1972-present	W. Peyton Cunningham Jr.	
1907-1912	Samuel J. Henry	Tudge R	A. B. Williams, "The History of the Judiciary	
1912-1920	W. T. Cunningham	of Natchitoches Parish," The Natchitoches		
1920-1924	James W. Jones Jr.	Genealogist (April 1978)		
1924-1930	John F. Stephens		8.50 (1.17-1.17)	



John S. Kyser Collection, NSU Archives





Courtesy B. A. Cohen

Spiral stairway and balcony



Courtesy B. A. Cohen

Two views of St. Maurice Plantation house, St. Maurice, La.

among the residents
here was Dr. Preston

E. Wooddell who marned
my went Camille DeB.
There at Willow. - The
took me thre w tuggy
Thorse when I was
about & yearsol to
show where he have
as a boy.



Courtesy B. A. Cohen

Tante Huppé house [Historic District]



Town residence of my maternal grandfacents, Each had an outside door to a moom-, (from Willow near Grand Econe, from Cane River Cote Joyeuse at Deemeda me moller was form here, grew up at Willow.

Proclamation!

WHEREAS, the Almighty God in his infinite wisdom has taken from our midst one of his beloved servants, the Right Reverend Anthony Piegay, and

WHEREAS, Father Piegay has labored in this community with his flock for over fifty-two years; and

WHEREAS, this minister of God has enjoyed the love, respect and admiration of all the people of this community, regardless of creed; and

WHEREAS, such a character as this is entitled to whatever small tribute of respect and admiration can be shown at a time like this,

NOW THEREFORE, I, Edwin L. McClung, Jr., in my official capacity as Mayor of the City of Natchitoches, do hereby call upon the citizens of Natchitoches to pause in their endeavors and to suspend the operation of their places of business during the hours of the funeral services which will be held at the Church of the Immaculate Conception from ten to twelve o'clock on the morning of Friday, October 20th.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto affix my signature at Natchitoches, Louisiana, this 18th day of October, in the year Nineteen Hundred Thirty Nine.

EDWIN L. McCLUNG, Jr. Mayor

Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

Right: Mayor's Proclamation about Father Piegay's funeral Below left: John Murphy Below right: Dr. Milton Dunn



Courtesy Mrs. William Nolan



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives



Courtesy Mrs. Hilda Perini Heim

Midwife, "Aunt" Marie



Courtesy Joseph (Pat) Henry, Jr.

Mrs. Cammie Garrett Henry

When steamboat navigation first took place, Old River that ends at the oil mill in Natchitoches was the first stream in use. One boat was lost below Montrose and another at Cypress. In Cane River I know of 2 boats that were lost — one opposite Front Street in Natchitoches and another at Live Oak plantation, six miles below town. One boat blew up its boilers, scalded to death Mr. H---, a planter living a few miles up. He died six days later. Mr. & Mrs. Fontenot were also burned by steam, but survived. This happened a mile below Monette ferry on the then Rosh plantation while loading cotton.

a mile below Monette ferry on the then Rosh plantation while loading cotton.

The boats used to take passengers & freight along the Red and expedition of cotton was made through them. There were landings all about, such as O.K., Lodi, Durand, Planters, and every farm was in fact a landing. From opposite Montgomery the planters were the Bernsteins, Dr. Jackson, the Currys. On Little River, Roper, Anthony and lower down some mullatoes owners of slaves. Then came Charleville, Duncan Cockfield, Judge Compere family; Compere's father came from Bordeaux with Hertzog & Roubieu. Another resident was E. Cockfield below Compere and also Louis (Gros) Rachal. Elyser Rachal and Pierre Brosset.

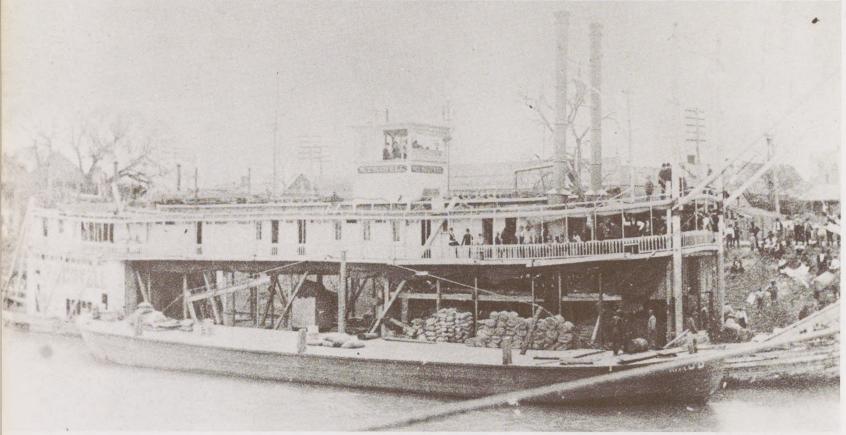
Charles Bertrand, Cloutierville, 1933

Below: Foster & Glassett stern-wheel supply boat in front of Melrose Plantation, 29 December 1921.

Bottom: W. T. Scovell at Front Street.



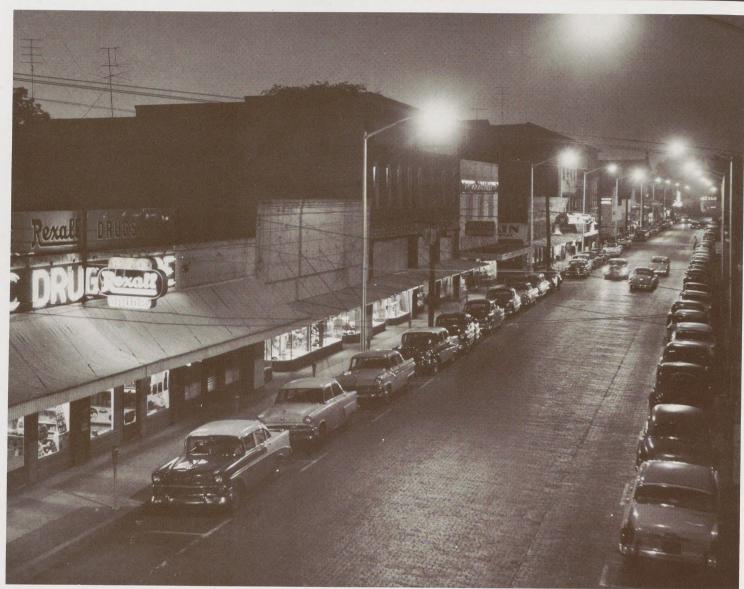
Melrose Collection, NSU Archives



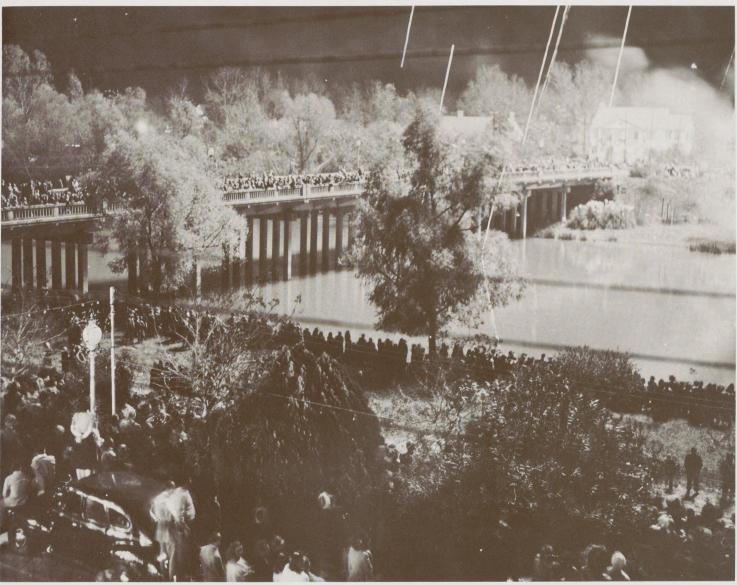
Giles W. Millspaugh, Jr., Collection, NSU Archives

Cane River home built in 1892 by Henry Stanley Stacy and wife Parthenia Wagley Stacy. Shown on the porch in 1912 are William Henry Stacy and wife Loretta Williams Stacy





Joe Dellmon Collection, NSU Archives



Joe Dellmon Collection, NSU Archive



Right: Ada Jack Carver, 1904 Far right: Ada Jack Carver, *Potpourri* editor, 1911 Below: Ada Jack Carver Snell and Mrs. Cammie Garrett Henry

George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives

Potpourri, 1911



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

James Aswell autographing his novel There's One in Every Town



John S. Kyser Collection, NSU Archives





Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

Courtesy Joseph Henry, Sr.

Below: Captain Leopold Caspari Top Right: Group of students with Uncle Snow at the gazebo, 1889 Lower Right: Children and students in front of the Normal School buildings



George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives



Tarleton Collection, NSU Archives



House of Representatives, Session of 1884

My dear Julie,
... Tell Dr. Sheib & Judge Pierson that I received their letters
They must excuse me, I am not able to answer for want of time;
tell them I am not out of the woods yet. This Normal School has
given me too much trouble. Last night the Senate Committee

made a unanimous favorable report, and I think it will go through easy; but now comes the Governor who opposes it, he wants to keep us down to the 6000 dollars. I took our Senator awhile ago, and I gave the Governor a good talk; he says if other bills are cut down, he may approve ours. I have come to the conclusion to ask the Senate to pass it as it is and let him veto it if he wents. I am going in the conclusion to ask the Senate to pass it as it is and let him veto it if he wants. I am going in the senate now. L. Caspari

Colonel Thomas Duckett Boyd, president of the Louisiana State Normal School, photographed by A. D. Lytle, 1888

Beverly C. Caldwell, president of the Louisiana State Normal School, 1896-1908



George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives



George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives

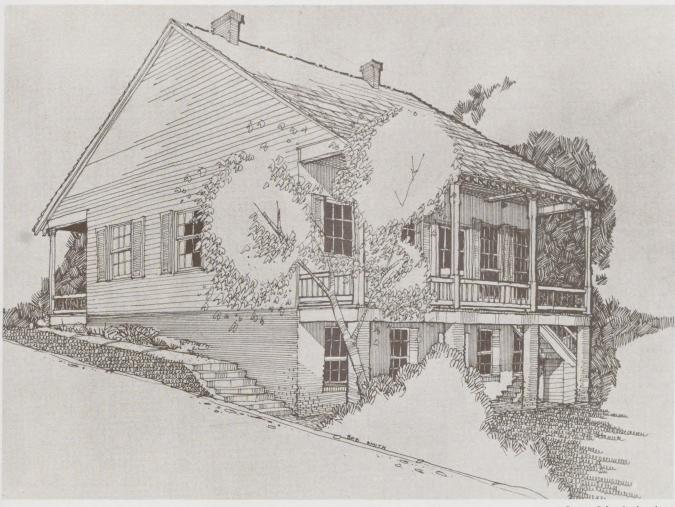
The president's residence, State Normal School



George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives

... when I arrived in Natchitoches ... the impression of that snowy day in the old Southern town and the snow in the forest and upon the cotton fields was fantastic and beautiful and I cannot forget it.

Kate Chopin, 1900



Melrose Collection, NSU Archives

Courtesy Robert Smith, architect



The Mollie Campbell house
Photo by DSW, c. 1930-31.

In or around the year 1848, so the story goes, when Ulysses S. Grant was a Colonel in the United States Army and located at Camp Salubrity, which is about two miles north of the Town of Natchitoches on the Old Sabine Road, the second military road established between the Red River and the Sabine River, he became fascinated and fell in love with the beautiful and charming Mary Campbell, then one of the social Belles of Natchitoches. Colonel Grant was a sparkling young man of many social graces as well as great military ability. When the distinguished young colonel asked for her hand in marriage, Mary Campbell declined his offer of marriage and married Jerre Sullivan, a young man she was in love with. This preference to Jerre Sullivan, instead of the distinguished young colonel greatly changed the local history, for this young soldier later became the President of the United States. Mary Sullivan became the mother of Sheriff J. W. Freeman's first and second wives and the grandmother of Earl and Ashton Freeman.

and Ashton Freeman.

James W. Jones, "The People and the
Lands in the Red River Valley"

Joe Schelette, Natchitoches street sweeper, and his horse, Jack; 1931



Courtesy the City Bank, Natenitocnes

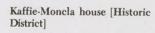


 $George\ Williams on\ Collection,\ NSU\ Archives$



James R. Hearron house [Historic District]

Courtesy B. A. Coher

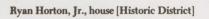




Courtesy B. A. Cohen



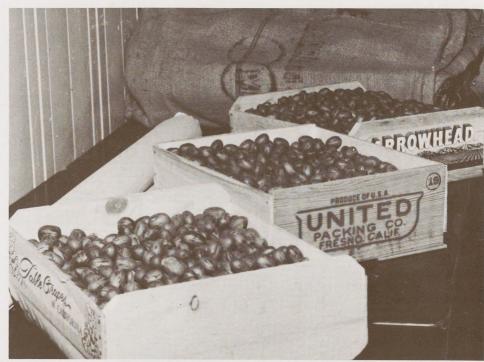
Courtesy B. A. Cohen





Courtesy B. A. Cohen

Robert Lucky house [Historic District]



First pecans of the season at the NSU Pecan Lab

Tractor powered tree-shaker in position

Courtesy Dr. Arthur Allen, NSU



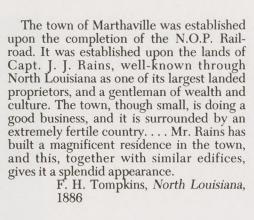
Courtesy Dr. Arthur Allen, NSU

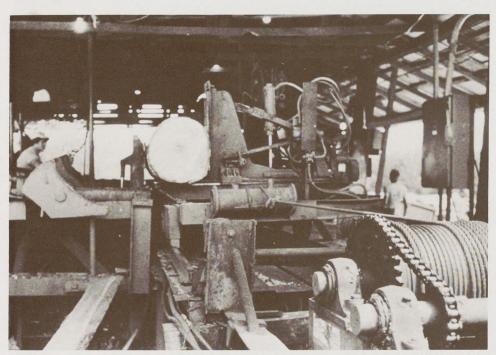


Courtesy Dr. Arthur Allen, NSU

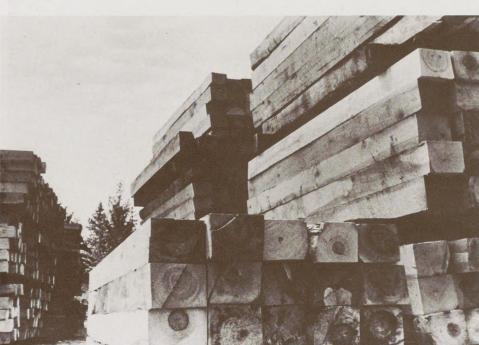


Courtesy B. A. Cohen





Courtesy B. A. Cohen



Courtesy B. A. Cohen

Top: tractor handling hardwood logs Center: sawing logs in the mill Left: stacks of sawed timbers

All bloomers worn by young ladies in athletic work must conform to patterns supplied or approved by the teacher of domestic art.

Louisiana State Normal School Catalog, 1916-1917

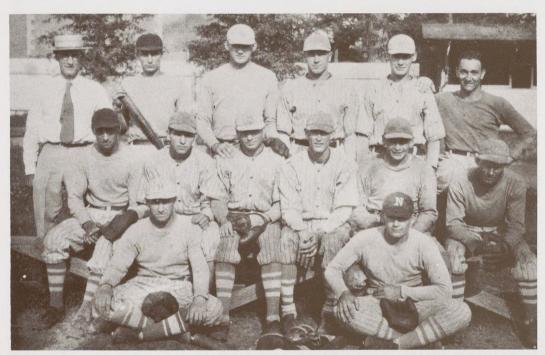


1918-1919 basketball team, LSNS

1931 basketball team, LSNC



John S. Kyser Collection, NSU Archives



John S. Kyser Collection, NSU Archives

Varsity baseball team, 1930

Photography class, 1902



George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives

For the study of photography there are two well-equipped dark rooms, a number of cameras and lenses of superior quality, and all necessary accessories. All these are used without charge by members of the photography class, but each student pays for the plates and printing paper for his own study.

Louisiana State Normal School Catalog, 1904

We've come to the Normal With one aim in view: We're going to be teachers Before we get through.

We hear it in Chapel, We hear it at noon, We're going to be teachers, And that pretty soon.

We're not to chew gum, Use slang, or wear paint, But have prim deportment And act like a saint.

We'll go out in the State And models must be. Everything that we do The children will see.

We must brace up, dear girls, Get good attitude, Wear a smile that will stay And a look that's subdued.

We have the right feeling, The air it pervades. We're sure to be teachers, And nice, prim old maids.

Potpourri, 1911



George Williamson Collection, NSU Archives

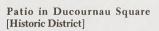


Diamond Jubilee, 1959

John S. Kyser Collection, NSU Archives



Courtesy B. A. Cohen





Courtesy B. A. Cohen

Patio of the Lemee house [Historic District]





 ${\it The\ Horse\ Soldiers:}\ {\it John\ Wayne\ and\ John\ Ford\ on\ filming\ location\ in\ Natchitoches\ Parish}$



Courtesy Guillet Photography

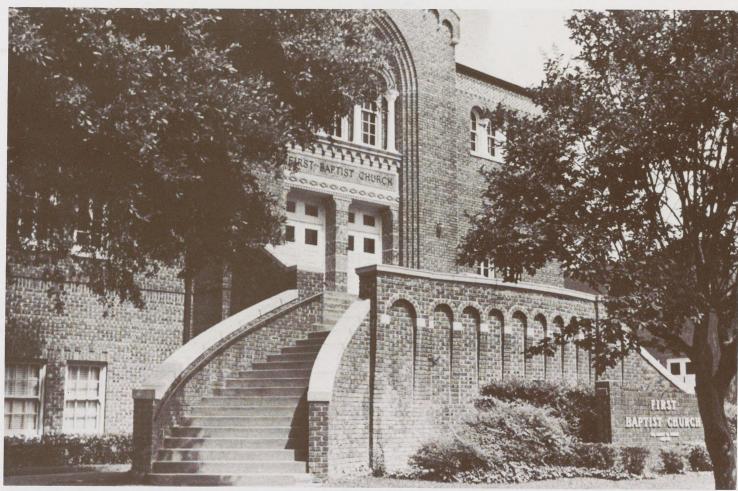


Courtesy Guillet Photography

The battle will be fought as numerous such savage engagements of the Civil War. It will have all the panoply of guidons and colors, bugle signals and the shoutings of orders. Horses and men will go down. Some men will get up and remount riderless horses. The ebb and flow of courage and death will eventually result in Marlowe, and what is left of his men, crossing the

bridge and joining up with Secord and Gray's forces in hand-tohand fighting, afoot and on horses with more and more sabre play as the attackers run out of ammunition, until they finally carry the field.

John Lee Mahin and Martin Rackin, *The Horse Soldiers.* Final script, 9 September 1958



Courtesy B. A. Cohen



Courtesy B. A. Cohen

ambrouse Somfayrae and four sons helped stablish this cherch, were beacons. Wives were boughts of morse of new Enpland - gave were of proferty at corner of Front and tradeau before thes was built.

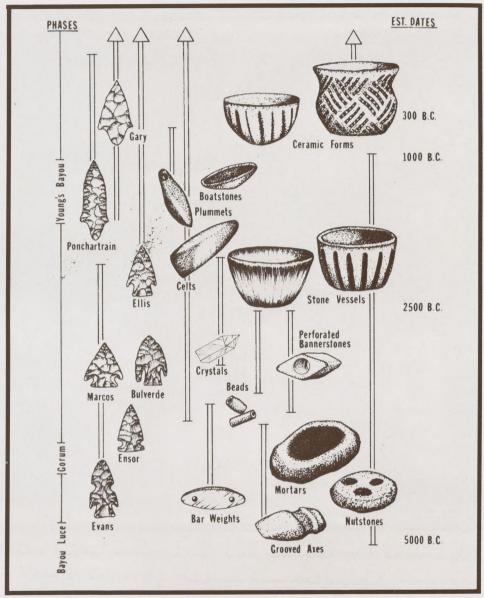
I was nearly six years old when the final removal of the Indians took place, and I shall never forget the river banks in front of Natchitoches, lined with steamboats and the Front Street filled with gaudily-dressed

Indians and their trappings.

They were a large population and their trade in pelts, tobacco, dried meats, tallow, beeswax, hides, beef cattle, baskets, and dressed skins was large and remunerative.

After their deportation many business men left and houses were closed. It took time to fill the gap, and then the character of the commerce succeeding was altogether different, bringing in a new order of business

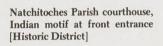
The stream of white immigration flowed on. In a few years, remarkably few, the Indian was forgotten. Some remained, and their language, once a required recommendation, together with Spanish and French, for a clerk or any young man in business, lapsed into desuetude. The last of the whites to speak it was a wealthy planter of Natchitoches Parish, but a few years dead, who kept some Indian families to hunt for him to his last days. Scrap books in old families yet contain Indian words with corresponding English translations, such as "we boys" all kept in that long ago.
J. H. Cosgrove

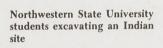


II. F. Gregory & H. K. Curry, Prehistory



John S. Kyser Collection, NSU Archives







Northwestern State University Photography



Mildred McCoy Collection, NSU Archives

Ah! drink, my soul, the splendor of the day;
Quaff from the golden goblet oft and deep.
Darkness will come again; too long 'twill stay —
The everlasting night of dreamless sleep.
Kate Chopin Kate Chopin



Per Seyersted, A Kate Chopin Miscellany, NSU Press, 1979

Two portraits of Kate Chopin

Bayou Folk Museum.



Courtesy Mary Carolyn Roberts

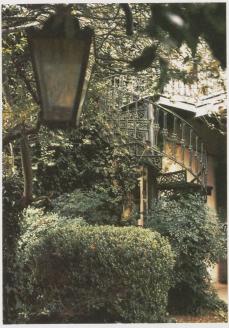


Right: old Natchitoches Parish court house. Below: Ducournau Square area of Front Street.

Courtesy B. A. Cohen

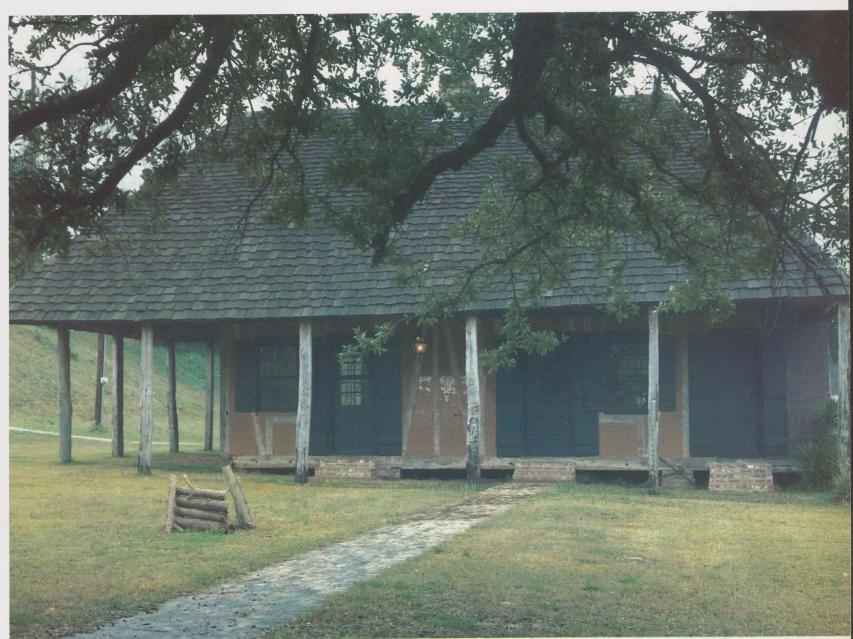


Courtesy Don Sepulvado



Courtesy B. A. Cohen

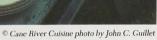
Left: spiral stairway. Below: the Roque House now greets visitors on the Natchitoches riverfront.



Courtesy Don Sepulvado



Right: the Tante Huppé house. Below: the Henry Cook Taylor House.





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Courtesy B. A. Cohen



Courtesy Don MacKenzie



Courtesy Don Sepulvado



Top left: back of Melrose. Top right: African House, Melrose Plantation. Above: Melrose Plantation house.

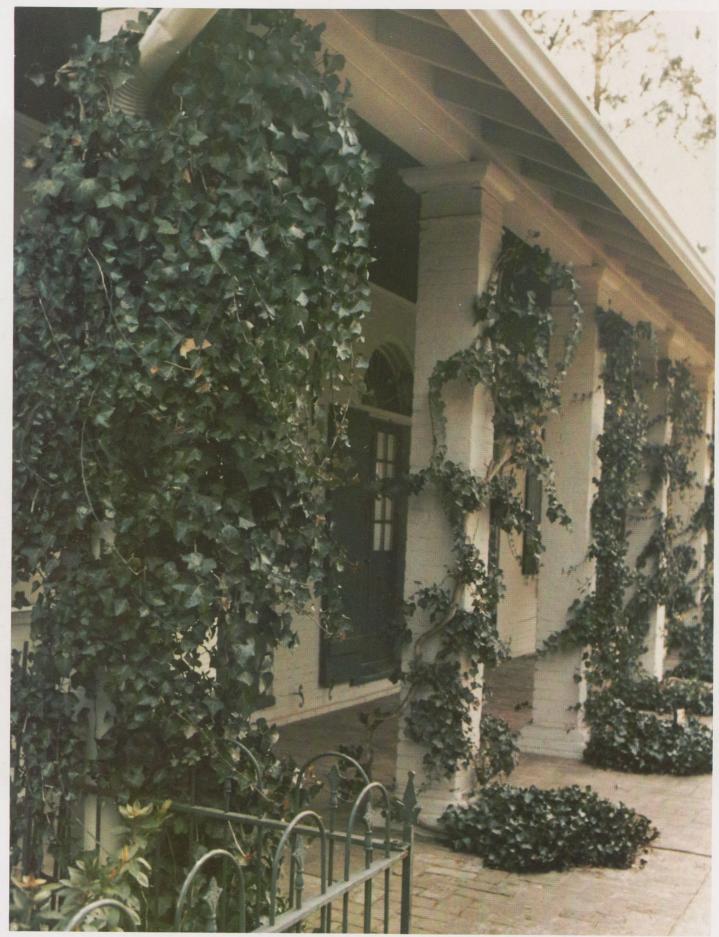
Courtesy B. A. Cohen



Courtesy B. A. Cohen



Courtesy B. A. Cohen



Courtesy B. A. Cohen

Beau Fort Plantation



Courtesy B. A. Cohen



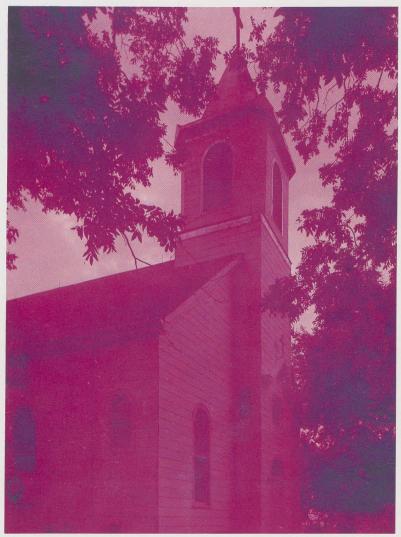
Courtesy B. A. Cohen

Tante Huppé House.

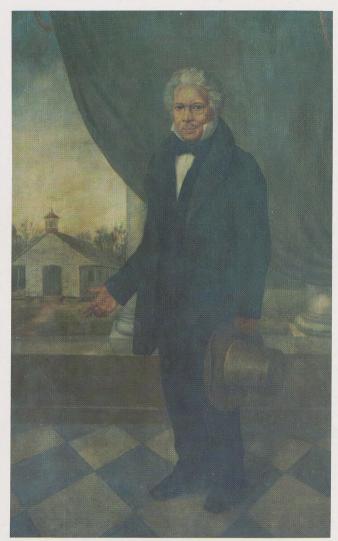


Courtesy Mary Carolyn Roberts

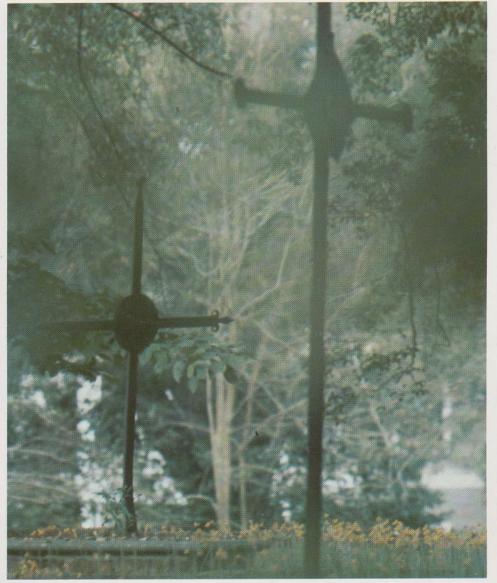
Left: St. Augustine Church. Below: Augustine Metoyer



Courtesy Guillet Photography



Courtesy NSU Archives



Left: iron crosses in American Cemetery. Below: Immaculate Conception Catholic Church.



Courtesy Billie Sepulvado

Courtesy B. A. Cohen



Courtesy B. A. Cohen

Oak Lawn Plantation



Courtesy B. A. Cohen



Courtesy B. A. Cohen

Sunset on Sibley Lake



Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson



Island in Sibley Lake.

Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson



Sunset along Cane River

Courtesy B. A. Cohen

Sunset at Lakeview Plantation



Courtesy B. A. Cohen

Cane River from the Bermuda bridge in winter



Courtesy B. A. Cohen



Courtesy B. A. Cohen



Courtesy B. A. Cohen

Sunset across the fields, Magnolia Plantation.



Courtesy B. A. Cohen

Tall stump sentries at sunset on Sibley Lake.



Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson



Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson



Courtesy B. A. Cohen



Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson



Winter at sunset on the riverfront, Natchitoches

Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson



Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson

Three top photos: butterflies/flowers. Bottom left: fishing in Cane River Lake at the lower dam. Bottom right: Trees form a needle-eye view of Cane River at Melrose.



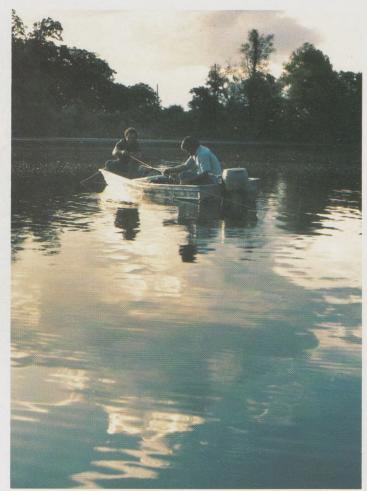
Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson



Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson



Courtesy Tommy G. Johnson



Courtesy B. A. Cohen



Courtesy B. A. Cohen

 $Sunrays\ beam\ through\ dark\ clouds\ on\ silhouetted\ house,\ Magnolia\ Plantation.$



Courtesy B. A. Cohen



